

rather than a charity? Social service in some form should stand at the door of the hospital to help every patient leaving it. It should be a campaign of education and prevention. Lectures on hygiene and sanitation, made forceful by lantern slides, pictures, posters, &c., are all useful. Simple demonstrations on the proper way to give a baby a bath, to cook a simple meal in economical and cleanly fashion, will be of more value than merely the printed sheet. With the poor *clientèle* found in China, we should strive always to teach them how best to utilize what they have and can get, and not make them think that cleanliness, wholesome food and fresh air are wholly expensive and unattainable foreign innovations. Start with the known and possessed, and work to higher levels. The great aim of social service is really education—first of the discharged hospital patient, and secondly of the community to which he goes. But to be effectual and not bring the movement into disrepute and ridicule, we must be content to work up from the bottom with those who have not the first conception of the principles of hygiene or economics."

THE QUESTION BOX.

"The Question Box" was then opened, and the meeting thrown open to discussion of the various topics thus introduced. All manner of problems were brought up, from the building and equipping of hospital kitchens and how to make a home-made incinerator, to the proper term for our hospital matrons in Chinese.

GOOD TO BE THERE.

The programme for the afternoon was a treat to all, but especially to those coming from the interior. Immediately after tiffin, eight big touring cars took the party for a ten-mile ride through fields and woods and roads, terminating at the Summer Palace of the rulers of the country. The chief points of interest were a boat ride on the lake, and a stop at the marble boat built for the Empress Dowager. The most picturesque scenery was enjoyed to the full, and then came the home ride, which took us via the grounds of the Indemnity College. It was a memorable closing for the busy week.

Sunday was a day of rest with friends in the city, new and old. In the evening, some wended their way to the Union Church, where a helpful sermon was preached by Dr. Fenn; others attended the impressive service at the British Legation Church.

The last session of the Conference, on Monday, September 6th, was devoted to business, reading of reports, election of officers and committees, and amendments to the constitution, and like matters. Votes of thanks were given to retiring officers, to our hostesses and others who had contributed to a successful year and Conference. It was voted to hold the 1916 meetings in September, in Shanghai, and then to wait eighteen months for the next, convening at Foochow at Chinese New Year, 1918.

The session closed with prayer service, and the members separated to return to their work with new inspiration and zeal.

M. L. S.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

A BITTER DISAPPOINTMENT.

The States of New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, have with New Jersey declared against Women's Suffrage. What a bitter disappointment to the most enlightened of American women, amongst them our dear Miss Dock, who has of recent years devoted her wonderful and brilliant talents to securing this fundamental right for such of her sex as realise its vital importance in attaining high standards of morality. We hear Tammany the diabolical used its malign power against the purification of politics through women's influence; so we may see an increase in the great cities of the Eastern States of all the abominations it stands for—bribery, corruption, white slave traffic and all that makes for human degradation. Perhaps after the war, old England may have been sufficiently shaken out of her lethargy to revert to love of liberty, and may after all set an example to the world in this particular. All countries which prate of fighting in this appalling War to suppress the tyranny of Prussia, will owe enfranchisement to women, unless they are content to play the hypocrite. Countries where women are not enfranchised have not begun to understand what liberty means, and the present bloodshed is largely the result of this abysmal ignorance upon the part of men.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN HOLLAND.

The *Times* reports that the Dutch Government has just brought in a Bill for the revision of the Constitutional Law of the Netherlands. It is proposed by the Bill to extend the right of voting to all the male citizens who have reached the age of 23 and are not excluded by certain disabilities, and also to female citizens who have reached the same age. This, however, does not mean that the franchise will be made universal immediately for all the women in the country. The revision of the Constitutional Law will only introduce the principle of woman suffrage, while a further revision of the existing Electoral Law, or the introduction of a separate Bill later on, will stipulate how far the right of woman suffrage is to be extended.

ILLOGICAL NONSENSE.

At the September monthly meeting of the National Council of Women held in Melbourne, great disturbance was occasioned owing to the determination of representatives of "the Women's Peace Army" to oppose all preparation for war, and to move a motion which the President would not accept. Peace was not restored until a constable had been summoned, and the President had threatened to have the principal offender ejected. In the course of the heated proceedings, Dr. Edith Barrett declared that it was not only absurd but treasonable to oppose preparation for war. To prate of peace whilst the most cruel and barbarous nation on earth is over-running Europe is curiously illogical. We want peace secured, and that is only possible by crushing tyranny.

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