

of unemployment; to collect every bit of available evidence in respect of occupations *unsuitable* for juveniles, too long hours, &c., in order ultimately to bring the question of juvenile occupation under State control. Mr. Bray brought out some interesting points on the subject which the war has demonstrated. The demand for child labour under school age has been seriously great; the demand for the work of children outside school hours has increased from 20-50 per cent. With the boys it has been paid employment, but the nature of the girls' work has been mostly increased domestic work, owing to the fact that the fathers are serving in the war, and the maintenance allowance not being sufficient, the mothers have been obliged to go out to work. The health of little girls under these conditions has suffered.

In weighing the pros and cons of young boys employed in munition factories, the lecturer appeared to take the view that they were pretty well balanced; the disadvantages of long hours—contrary to the provisions of the Factory Act, must be accepted as inevitable under the present abnormal conditions of war. Boys of 14 are being paid 22s.-25s. a week; boys of 16 as much as £3 a week. They are working during 12 hours, for seven days in the week. He was pleased, however, to find that the money is being put *on* them and *in* them! They are well fed and clothed. In the early part of the war there had been a grave lack of supervision, but since Welfare Workers have been appointed, the health of the juveniles has been well looked after. With regard to girls who are taking the place of boys, Mr. Bray is of opinion that whereas in some occupations—such as that of messenger—their health has improved, others are unsuitable and telling upon their health. In reviewing the whole question of the health and employment of juveniles, he said that not until we have solved the problem of poverty, will the question ever be put upon a satisfactory basis.

B. K.

A QUIZ BOOK ON NURSING.

We have received from the publishers, Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 24, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C., a copy of the second edition, revised and enlarged, of "A Quiz Book of Nursing for Teachers and Students," by Miss Amy Elizabeth Pope, formerly Instructor in the School of Nursing, Presbyterian Hospital, New York, and Miss Thirza A. Pope, formerly Supervisor of Visiting Nurses of the New York A.I.C.P.; with chapters on Visiting Nursing by Miss Margaret A. Bewley, R.N.; on Hospital Planning, Construction and Equipment, by Mrs. Bertrand E. Taylor, A.A.I.A.; and on Hospital Book-keeping and Statistics, by Mr. Frederic B. Morlok.

The book, of which the price is 7s. 6d. net, is a most useful one, and the questions on nursing subjects contain about one thousand questions

and answers on nursing subjects covering a wide range. There are also questions on hygiene, bacteriology, anatomy and physiology, dietetics and materia medica.

In connection with Visiting Nursing, the writer remarks, "There are so many fields now open for nurses that it seems necessary for the training schools to add to their curriculum that instruction which will tend to direct the minds and interests of the student nurses to that broader field of usefulness, a better understanding of themselves and the work for which they are being fitted. Under proper supervision and instruction they may be taught to adapt their nursing knowledge to the circumstances of the patients, and to make the best of the unfavourable surroundings and limited appliances found in the home. Necessity will teach them to improvise and economise. They will learn to think of each patient as an individual as well as a case of illness—for, under care at home, progress is often dependent on the financial and social condition of the family. Their experience will teach them adaptability and resourcefulness, and develop and cultivate their abilities along humanitarian lines.

"They should be expected to reason out things for themselves, and develop their judgment, instead of appealing to someone in authority in all emergencies."

We agree with the writer that, as an adjunct to hospitals and dispensaries, visiting nursing is indispensable. "It relieves congestion in the hospital proper, and many more cases can be treated in the wards. Patients can be discharged earlier, the subsequent minor dressings and medical care being carried out in the homes. Incidentally, much can be done to assure the community from which a hospital draws its patients that those concerned with its management are interested in their patients' welfare, by following them a sufficient time after leaving the hospital to insure their actual restoration to health."

The chapter on hospital planning, construction and equipment, of which nurses as a rule know little, is one which may be studied with advantage. The writer states that "all experts agree that the ideal hospital site should be reasonably accessible, but as far isolated as possible from all deleterious conditions; that is, noise, smoke, dust, &c. . . . In a large city the land is necessarily limited. In a smaller city a hospital should be in the suburbs. . . . provided with walks, flower beds, seats and arbors for the convalescent, and airing lawns under shelters, and trees for those brought out in beds and on wheel stretchers for the vital open air day by day. Roofs are valuable, balconies necessary, but Mother Earth, clothed and beautiful, has a certain inherent vitalizing influence not excelled." Hospital bookkeeping varies in different countries, but those who aspire to institutional posts will do well to study this chapter.

We cordially commend the book.

M. B.

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