

can often be treated at home, should be devoted to measles cases, which are often far more serious.

Mr. Walter Beer, of Livingstone Drive, Liverpool, who died on March 24th, left £400 to the Liverpool Jewish Board of Guardians; £200 to the Old Hebrew Congregation, Princes Road, Liverpool; £200 to the David Lewis Northern Hospital; £200 to the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool; £200 to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary; and £100 each to the Liverpool Dental Hospital, the Liverpool Hospital for Cancer and Diseases of the Skin, the Liverpool Eye and Ear Infirmary, Myrtle Street, the Liverpool Infirmary for Children, the Stanley Hospital, Liverpool, St. Paul's Eye Hospital, Oldhall Street, Liverpool, the Leasowe Sanatorium for Crippled Children, and the Liverpool Hebrew Ladies' Benevolent Institution.

Miss Dulcie Charlotte Vivian, of Clyne Castle, Swansea, and Belgrave Square, London, bequeathed £1,000 to the Swansea Hospital and £500 to the London Hospital.

The Rockefeller Foundation has given \$1,785,000 for the establishment of a "School of Public Health" at Harvard University.

THE ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE.

The autumn courses of training for Sanitary Officers, Health Visitors and School Nurses and Maternity and Child Welfare Workers, arranged by the Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W. 1, will commence in September—that for Sanitary Officers on Wednesday, September 21st, at 6 p.m., and that for Women Health Visitors and Child Welfare Workers, on Friday, September 23rd, at 6 p.m.

We notice among the lecturers in the latter course the names of Miss Isabel Macdonald, Secretary of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and Mrs. K. Lomax Earp, Matron of the Health Institute, Kilburn.

The training not only includes lectures, but practical demonstrations in the Museum of Sanitary Appliances, at Infant Consultations and Child Welfare Centres, visits to public works and other places of sanitary interest, and the use of a reference library, lending library and reading room.

The lectures are followed by the standard examinations of the Institute, which are recognised in all parts of the British Empire.

The fee for the complete course of lectures and demonstrations is £5 5s., or for Part I £3 13s. 6d., and Part II £2 2s.

Candidates who desire to enter for the Health Visitors' Examination, or for the Child Welfare Examination, must produce evidence of practical training and experience, including nursing, as required by the regulations for each examination, in addition to attending the Course of Lectures.

Forms of application and all particulars can be obtained at the Institute.

PROFESSIONAL REVIEW.

THE EXPERIENCES OF AN ASYLUM DOCTOR.*

"The Experiences of an Asylum Doctor, with suggestions for Asylum and Lunacy Law Reform," by Dr. Montagu Lomax, M.R.C.S., is dedicated by the author "To all the insane poor, in sympathy with their sufferings, and in hope of alleviating their hardships," and is written by a doctor who, when the war broke out, had lately retired from general practice, and, wishing to "do his bit," looked about for some means of making himself useful. Having been a lifelong student of psychology, and hearing there was a great dearth of asylum doctors, he applied for, and soon obtained, the post of Assistant Medical Officer in one of the largest County Asylums. Here he stayed only two months, in the second asylum to which he was appointed the year afterwards he remained for nearly two years. It is from his experience in this second asylum, one of the largest in England, that the facts enumerated in the book have chiefly been taken. Concerning this he writes:—

"Profoundly interesting as I found the study of insanity and psychiatric problems to be, I was not long in either asylum before I realised there was a problem of still more urgent interest and importance, viz., that of our treatment of the pauper insane, and, in fact, the whole problem of asylum administration and lunacy legislation. I had not occupied my position more than a few months before it became evident to me that the administrative system under which our public asylums were conducted, and as constituted by Act of Parliament, permitted the occurrence of grave defects and abuses, which appeared to be involved in the system itself, and which could not be rectified without far-reaching administrative reform."

Dr. Lomax does not claim that this was any new discovery, as it has been admitted and deplored for some time past by those concerned in asylum administration, and discussed at meetings of the Medico-Psychological Society, but though it was suspected that all was not well with our public (or private) asylums, or our treatment of the insane, no attempt has hitherto—so far as he knows—been made to bring the subject to public notice. "All reforms of public institutions depend, in the last resort, upon the rousing of public sentiment, and the pressure of public opinion. It is not enough for specialists and experts to be satisfied of the necessity for reform; it is for the public itself to take the lead. But to do this the facts must be known. This book is an attempt to supply the facts, and give the reasons, and thereby enable the public to form a judgment and take action accordingly." Dr.

* George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., Ruskin House, 40, Museum Street, W.C. 1.

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