

other parts of the province, pay a fee of 1 krona a day (1s. 5d).

In case of need those patients for whom the Steelworks provide free clinical service also are entitled to transportation to and from their homes at a very nominal fee. This holds true even in the case of repeat visits.

If they are bedridden at home, they are entitled to doctor's examinations in their home, free of charge. Thanks to these privileges, and also thanks to the expert supervision of a district nurse, many patients can be cared for in their homes who would otherwise have to be hospitalised.

One chief doctor with two assistant doctors is in charge of the Steelwork's Medical Services. They work at the Steelwork's hospital.

In the ward there are 2 nurses, 7 nurses' aids and a charwoman. For the clinic there are 4 nurses, 6 nurses' aids, 1 secretary, and a charwoman; 1 nurse on night duty takes care of both ward and clinic.

In the Maternity ward there are 3 midwives, 4 nurses' aids, and a charwoman.

At the hospital, there is also a matron, a curator, 2 physical therapists and, of course, the necessary kitchen staff.

The First-aid and Industrial health stations have 1 nurse each, clerks, and a charwoman.

Here and in other places in this paper "Nurse" means a nurse graduated from an officially acknowledged nurses' school.

The County Council has granted funds for a new hospital. It will be built close to the present Maternity Ward.

II.—HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS GOVERNED BY THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT BOARD.

One of the central county dispensaries has its seat in Sandviken. It comprises the entire province of Gatrikland except the city of Gavle. It is run by a doctor, two graduated nurses, and a nurses' aid. All cases of suspected tuberculosis discovered by the district dispensaries are referred to this central dispensary, and so are all cases which have given a positive reaction at the tuberculin tests made by the district nurses. After two months, the tuberculin test is removed on those who were negative the first time. If they are negative even this time, they are subjected to calmette vaccination.

Furthermore, at this central dispensary, lungs are gassed, and X-rays are taken. This is also where it is decided whether a patient should be referred to a sanatorium, whether he should be entered in the tubercular record, and when he should be checked out.

In 1948, the entire population of the County of Gavleborg was X-rayed. For the province of Gatrikland this meant 80,000 persons. The X-ray films were forwarded to the X-ray centre of the National Association against Tuberculosis who advised the central dispensaries about the results. Subsequently the central dispensaries had to "draft" all suspicious cases, examine them, take full-size X-rays and make their recommendations.

The 6,210 employees of the Sandviken Steelworks were exempted from this general examination inasmuch as they had already been X-rayed in 1947-48. A second series of X-rays is now being taken, but at a somewhat slower rate than the first time. According to an agreement between the Steelworks and the Central Dispensary, the latter one examines all X-rays taken and makes recommendations to the company physician regarding treatment, change of work, etc.

2.—The Maternity Centre.

The expectant mother is entitled to a free physical examination at the maternity centre as soon as she has reason to

believe that she is pregnant. If she is found to be pregnant she is expected to furnish a sample of urine once every month for the first five months. At the end of this period she is given another examination. From now on she will furnish samples of urine every two weeks until the eighth month when she is examined for the last time. Samples of urine are now to be furnished once a week until delivery.

The maternity centre is taken care of by one of the company doctors and by the district midwife.

3.—The Children's Welfare Centre.

Ever since 1947 all newly-born are being calmette vaccinated at the maternity hospital, provided the parents of the child give their consent. At the end of each week, the maternity hospital furnishes a report on children who have been born during the week. Upon receipt of this report the nurse of the Children's Welfare Centre visits the children's homes. She enters the child on a health record card, and two months later the mother is expected to call at the Children's Welfare Centre for a physical examination of the child. Between the age of one and two years, she calls every third month, and then three or four times a year until the child starts school. All this time the nurse has kept in touch with the child's home to give advice. During this period, the child has also been vaccinated against smallpox.

The Children's Welfare Centre is in charge of the county council physician (provinsiallakaren) and a nurse.

4.—The Hospital for Epidemic Diseases.

The County Government Board has also under its supervision a hospital for epidemic diseases, headed by the county council physician.

III.—HEALTH INSTITUTIONS GOVERNED BY THE CITY OF SANDVIKEN.

The City of Sandviken has a Home for the Aged with a capacity for 34 persons, where old and single persons who have no means of caring for themselves can find asylum. This Home for Aged disposes of a ward with 26 beds intended for those who become sick or who are chronically ill. The city physician is in charge of this ward. The fee is 3 kronor a day (4s. 3d.). For those without means to pay for themselves there are special regulations.

For the care of the sick in the city, there are three district nurses, each one with a district of her own. They work under the supervision of the city physician. At the recommendation by the physician they care for the patients in the patients' own homes. They also have daily receptions where patients are given vitamin injections, for instance, on doctor's prescription. This helps to ease the burden on the company hospital clinic. Furthermore, the district nurses serve in the district dispensary.

At the service of people who are old, single, and without economic means, there is a special parish nurse.

Finally, there are seven "home nurses" who can take the place of the housewife of a family in case of her illness. They work under the supervision of the City Social Board.

School children are submitted to compulsory physical examination every second year. Sick or poorly developed children are given proper treatment and are placed under supervision. Children who have given negative reaction at the tuberculin test are subjected to calmette vaccination, provided that their parents give permission. For each child there is a health record card. This card accompanies the child should it move to another town or city. A special nurse is at the disposal of the schools.

Dental care is compulsory and free for school children.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)