

sink admiration in pity. It was no use studying the position of Indian women when they had already passed judgment on its debasement.

Dr. J. L. Prichard, reporting on the dental conditions found amongst school children in the Aberdeen Urban District, has urged the provision of a dental clinic. He states that with the exception of children under the care of the Poor Law guardians, none of the scholars receive the benefit of conservative dental surgery. It appears that in South Wales colliery districts teeth are attended to by three varieties of practitioners: (1) qualified dental surgeons; (2) dental mechanics; (3) artificial teeth dealers. "The practice of qualified dental surgeons," writes Dr. Prichard, "is almost entirely amongst the well-to-do, and there are very few of them, as they are unable to compete on equal terms with the unqualified men. Qualified men are not allowed to advertise, neither is it their custom to display flashy cases of artificial teeth in front of their houses in order to attract patients. Dental mechanics are often found practising as dental surgeons, and although these men have had no hospital training in dental surgery, yet some of them are excellent mechanics, and are able to establish remunerative practices. Artificial teeth dealers are generally men who have learnt enough about mechanical dentistry to be able to take wax impressions of the mouth. These impressions are sent away to dental mechanics, who are able from the impressions to supply sets of artificial teeth. These operations were made possible by the introduction of vulcanite into dental work, this substance being much more easy to work with than metal. The *modus operandi* of this type is to extract the teeth and supply the patient with artificial ones. He never attempts to save a tooth by a filling, as this operation requires knowledge and skill, and is not so remunerative. Nitrous oxide gas has been largely supplanted by local anæsthetics in dental work, and therefore it is easier for and untrained man to induce people to allow him to extract their teeth." Dr. Prichard adds that for some time it has been felt that the time taken to inspect

the teeth of school children is so much time wasted inasmuch as the only result of the advice given to parents is that they go to some person more or less competent to have their children's teeth extracted. It is true that occasionally a dental mechanic is met with who has some knowledge of the filling of teeth, the treatment of a cavity that does not involve the pulp being comparatively easy, but despite these facts he finds that the local elementary school children do not receive any dental treatment except the radical operation of extraction.

Children in the public schools of Stavanger, Norway, are treated with the aid of American dental apparatus by a dentist who received his post-graduate dental education in the United States. This year two rooms were fitted up as dental clinics. Twice during the school year the children are to have their teeth examined. If any defects are found the dentist will hand to the child a note to take home to the parents, asking their consent to treatment, the work to be done for the child free of charge. The 800 children in the first grade whose teeth are under observation this year will continue to be treated when they pass into succeeding grades, so that eventually the plan will spread automatically to the entire school system. The dental rooms are open every day, 9 to 11 a.m. for boys, and 3 to 5 p.m. for the girls.

Advance Notices, Alphabetical.

Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire, Toronto, Ontario, in 1915.

Sanitary Institute Congress at Exeter, 1913.—The Council of the Royal Sanitary Institute have issued an invitation from the City Council at Exeter to hold the next Congress and Exhibition of the Institute in Exeter from July 7 to 12, 1913.

The International Congress of Medicine.—The summer of 1913 will witness the 17th International Congress of Medicine in London, England. Further particulars regarding this congress will be given later, when received from the Honorary General Secretary, Prof. H. Burger, Vondelstraat 1, Amsterdam. Prof. Burger states that he will be glad to receive any propositions regarding this Congress addressed as above.