

SOCIAL SERVICE AND HOSPITAL EFFICIENCY.

our liquor traffic and lessen the number of criminals, to see to it that our homes and streets and lanes are sunny, sweet and clean, and that there is room to spare in our insane asylums, our homes for the feeble-minded and our sanitarium for tuberculosis? In this great field of preventive work a splendid harvest awaits the efficient and properly trained worker.

In the United States, where the demand for trained workers in all philanthropic activities is recognized as vital to the success and economy of institutional work, Schools of Philanthropy and Social Service have been formed in many of the larger centres. These aim to give professional and technical training to those who desire to enter upon any form of social work. More specifically, students are prepared for service as expert visitors for charitable institutions dealing with the care of families, as matrons or administrators, inspectors (tenement houses, factories, etc.), social service workers in hospitals, workers in clubs and settlements, in the Public Service branches dealing with health, charities and corrections, and investigators of social conditions and institutions. Complete courses of lectures are supplemented by practical work and observation in institutions. These courses vary in length—a full diploma course in New York and Boston requiring two years, while a medico-social course to fit workers for Hospital Social Service takes, at the Boston School, five months, and in Bellevue Hospital, New York, only three months—the last being a post-graduate course open to nurses only. A large number of nurses and college graduates follow these courses and fit themselves to fill well-paid posts that await them all over the country. Over two hundred students were enrolled last year in the New York School of Philanthropy.

The day has gone by when general service of an all-round kind is considered sufficient in any department of life, be it economic, industrial or professional. The man with the trade commands a better salary than the unskilled laborer, and he is, potentially, a better man because of his wider knowledge and usefulness. We pay more for our expert cooks and French dressmakers than for our "generals" and