

CONFERENCE OF MEDICAL EXPERTS

The Committee of Five called a conference of medical experts who met at Cannes, France, in April, 1919. That conference which was presided over by Professor Roux, the successor of Pasteur, and Dr. William H. Welch, of Johns Hopkins, is regarded as one of the most remarkable gatherings of health experts ever held, and included many of the foremost men of America, France, England, Italy, and Japan.

These experts adopted, at the Conference, a Minute announcing that a great part of the world-wide prevalence of disease and suffering is "due to wide-spread ignorance and lack of application of well-established facts and methods capable either of largely restricting disease or preventing it altogether." The Minute goes on to assert: "We have carefully considered the general purposes of the Committee of Red Cross Societies to spread the light of science and the warmth of human sympathy into every corner of the world and we are confident that this movement, assured as it is at the outset of the moral support of civilization, has in it great possibilities of adding immeasurably to the happiness and welfare of mankind."

From the address of Mr. Henry P. Davison, of the American Red Cross Society, at the opening session of the Conference:

"To cite a practical operation as we see it, let us take a country. We find there a national Red Cross. We present to it the practice which has been approved by you gentlemen and which has been demonstrated by the Red Cross organizations during the war. We awaken in them a realization of the work which can be done through a Red Cross for civilian population. We say to them: 'We want you to know about Child Welfare; we should like to have you know what has been demonstrated and practised in Child Welfare.' We would have some one like Dr. Lucas, or whosoever he may be, show to them the practical results from the work of Child Welfare in the countries which have been devastated by war as well as in other countries. We would say to them: 'This is the practice; this is what is being done for the children of the world.' We are confident that the result of that will be that Red Cross organizations would either stimulate the agencies within that country to work in Child Welfare or, if there were no agencies, would create agencies so that they would stimulate and develop the work for the children of that country.

"As in Child Welfare, so it would be with Sanitation; and we would expect to develop a public sentiment within