

as one of the happiest memories of a lifelong contest with disease. Dr. Mitchell goes on to say that in school children imperfect eyes cause headache, vertigo or even a confusion of mind that makes study impossible. The child gets credit for being stupid or idle, but a pair of glasses makes the differential diagnosis between lazy vice and studious virtue.

In Switzerland, Germany, and other European countries, and in some of the leading American cities, where systematic medical inspection has been made, it is surprising the number of children that have been found to have defective sight. In some instances as high as from 20 to 50 per cent., and the majority of these were found to require glasses. From 10 to 20 per cent. of the children examined were found to have defective hearing. When we consider that the eyes and the ears are the chief avenues through which all knowledge must come to the child, we can readily see the necessity for, and the importance of, such an inspection.

Now, in conclusion, there are three important points I wish to emphasize:

(1) That in view of the fact that the lamentable mortality in infancy and early childhood is due to improper feeding and hygiene, the result of ignorance on the part of mothers and those entrusted with the care and feeding of infants and children, that in the best interest of the state the government should supply in pamphlet form full information for the proper care and feeding of infants and children, the same to be supplied through their family physician.

(2) That according to statistics, next to malnutrition, infectious and nervous diseases is the most important factor in causing this large mortality; therefore a systematic medical inspection of schools is absolutely necessary to ensure safety to the child and to the community, and that this Association co-operate with the various Boards of Health and Boards of Education to secure this further safeguard to human life.

(3) That it is the duty of the State towards its improperly cared-for children to give them a good physical, mental and moral start till they are sixteen years of age, and the majority of them will develop noble men and women.

These seem to be the rocks upon which the medical profession may be the beacon light to keep the rising generation from a mental, moral and a physical shipwreck.