

blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised." For He actually caused the blind to see, the deaf to hear, the dumb to speak and the lame to walk; He healed the broken-hearted when He restored their sick and raised their dead; He fed the hungry in the wilderness before He offered them the bread of life; "He went about in the cities and villages, teaching in their Synagogues and preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom and healing every sickness and every disease among the people;" He even appealed to His works of mercy as proofs of His Messiahship, for "when John the Baptist sent two of his disciples and said unto Him, art Thou He that should come or do we look for another?" Jesus thought it sufficient answer to say, "Go your way and tell John the things which ye do hear and see, the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, the dead are raised and the poor have the Gospel preached to them." And the early Church, which in the days of its weakness merely protested against the evils of the Social Order, sought to eradicate them as soon as it had risen to a position of influence and power. And it is only by means of such an organization as this that our Church can effectively enter the field of Social Service.

III. PRACTICAL

Now the work of the Council for Social Service would seem to lie along four main lines. — Legislative — Active — Co-operative — and Educational.

1. Legislation.

It would seem to be one of the duties of the Council to present to the Government the views of the Church of England in matters where legislation can promote the Moral and Social well-being of the people.

There are some who seem to think that it is wrong in principle to seek to promote the interests of morality by means of legislation, on the plea that men cannot be made good by Act of Parliament. No doubt too much reliance may be placed on legislative action, and repression may be made to take the place of active influences for good. The Church may sit still and expect her work to be done by Legislatures. The past history and the common experience of the Church may be relied on to save her from such a danger. All the same, legislation has its proper function and can make it easier for men to be good by suppressing the glar-