

child instead of sending it away to some foundling home. This Social Service for maternity cases exists at the hospitals of Saint-Antoine, Lariboisière, Tenon, and Boucicaud, and will soon be extended. The Minister of Public Hygiene has given a subvention of 10,000 frs. and the total annual receipts for the last year amounted to 47,984 frs., so that the institution is mainly dependent on voluntary subscriptions.

The Children's Service.

Only quite recently has a special section for children been formed within the ranks of the Social Service. Where it is in working order the home of every child brought to a hospital is visited, so that the health of the other children may be observed. It is the duty of this branch of Social Service to send suitable cases to the country, to the sea-side, or to secure more wholesome lodgings for the family, and perhaps better employment for the breadwinner. The section for children being but recently constituted has no report to present, but we know that it attended to 182 cases during the first three months of its existence and 341 cases during the next three months, an increase showing that its services were appreciated.

All these different branches of the Social Service have their head office at No. 3, rue de Berri, Paris, VIII^e., where the records are kept and the committees meet.

FELLOWSHIP OF MEDICINE AND POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING was held of the Executive Committee of the Fellowship of Medicine and Post-Graduate Medical Association last week, at which a report was submitted from a subcommittee on the future policy of the Fellowship, while the rules of the revised constitution came up for approval.

The revised constitution defines the objects of the Fellowship as follows:—

(a) To provide the medical profession with an organisation that will facilitate intercommunication on all subjects of professional interest and will promote mutual hospitality.

(b) To provide in Great Britain and Ireland facilities for post-graduate education to be open to all persons qualified to practise in their own countries, and to assist in obtaining similar facilities for members in other countries.

Members of the Association will be those individuals who are sympathetic with and can assist in the promotion of the above objects, and members who have been nominated by some institution for election. The constitution and rules provide in the usual manner for annual general meetings, elections on to the Council, and elections of honorary officers and trustees, and arrange for standing subcommittees, of which there are four dealing with, respectively, finance, education, social developments, and, lastly, general purposes.

The report of the subcommittee on the future prospects of the Fellowship frankly recognises that persevering attempts to establish a central hospital and school for practitioners have so far failed, and alluded to the fact that some of the institutions at which post-graduate teaching is at present conducted have withdrawn from coöperation with the Fellowship. As financially the clinical courses in a series of grouped hospitals have not proved successful the report recommends a modified policy. This policy proposes to make the organisation of the Fellowship the main portal through which intending students can be invited to post-graduate study in London, and to effect this by getting into immediate coöperation with existing post-graduate institutions to make a comprehensive programme. The resulting programme being announced in a bulletin and in medical journals, the several institutions, the report suggests, should charge an inclusive fee to cover the clinical opportunities and should organise lecturing arrangements within their individual teaching programmes. The Fellowship would deduct a percentage of each fee paid through its organisation, but it will require the payment of an annual membership fee also to the

Fellowship to make a sound financial scheme. The last suggestion of the subcommittee's report is that a dean should be appointed to interview and advise practitioners.

As will be seen, the main change in the new constitution from the old one is a recognition of corporate members, while in the report by the subcommittee on policy it is frankly recognised that the ideal of a central hospital and school has to be abandoned. A deputation consisting of representatives of medical education throughout the country will be sent to the Minister of Health, asking that the Government will shortly take steps on the lines of the Athlone Report, especially in regard to post-graduate education.

BUDAPEST.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Criminal Attack on a Practitioner.

IN Kolozsborsa, a village which supplies meat to Kolozsvár, the capital of Transylvania, the village doctor recently made several complaints to the county judge to the effect that butchers were slaughtering animals not at the slaughter-house but at their homes, and that sometimes diseased animals were slaughtered and unwholesome meat sold to the public. The judge punished the offenders by forbidding them for four weeks to slaughter for sale. After the lapse of this time a butcher again slaughtered a cow on his private premises, whereupon the doctor reported the case to the chief veterinary surgeon of the district, as anthrax was epidemic at the time. The butcher was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment, and after his release threatened to drive the doctor from the village, if necessary by force. Three days later the doctor was summoned to a patient at 10 P.M., and found only a mild case of tonsillitis, not sufficiently serious to require a night call. Shortly after the doctor left the house he was assaulted in the darkness, receiving heavy blows about the head and body. He collapsed, was found unconscious on the road a quarter of an hour later, and was taken home, being conveyed to hospital next day. His injuries amounted to severe bruises on the lower jaw, the loss of two teeth, and a fracture of the left upper arm. His assailant has been arrested and taken into custody.

Alleged Profiteering by a Medical Man.

A medical man in Nagykörös, near Budapest, recently charged 5000 crowns (present value £2, but purchasing value in a village about £6) for a single visit to a patient who lived not far from the doctor's residence. This patient sued the doctor for "profiteering," but the court dismissed the case. The plaintiff appealed, however, to a higher court, which gave judgment against the doctor, on the ground that the demanding of an exorbitant fee for professional services was to be regarded as profiteering, and was therefore illegal. It was decided that mental workers could fairly be considered as profiteers in such cases; no exception could be made concerning doctors, for although the latter did not technically receive "wages," their services came within the accepted meaning of "work."

A Question of Breach of Professional Secrecy.

In a provincial town in Hungary a professional man, a lawyer, was recently treated for urethral stricture by a specialist who is generally supposed to limit his work to venereal disease. After treatment the lawyer omitted to pay his bill; the doctor waited three months, and then sent the bill by post. The letter enclosing the bill was handed to the lawyer's wife, the lawyer himself being out of town. The wife concluded from the bill that her husband suffered from venereal disease; suspecting immorality, she threatened to divorce him, thereupon the lawyer sued the doctor for breach of professional secrecy by sending a bill by post, thus making known the fact