HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND OTHER REPORTS

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Dental Clinic Services, New York, N. Y.—The dental clinic facilities now serving men, women and children of Greater New York who require free dental care or dental service at moderate costs are not adequate for the needs of this portion of the city's 6,000,000 population, according to a study just published in booklet form by the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association. In one district alone 20,000 school children whose teeth have been examined are waiting to have the necessary dental care done.

These and other significant facts are revealed in the report of a survey made by the association's Committee on Community Dental Service to bring to date a similar study made in 1923 and to review the dental clinic facilities of the city in terms of the community's needs. All the dental clinics in Greater New York, a total of 152, excluding those maintained and operated by specific industries for their employees only, were visited by a trained worker and the facilities and services were studied.

The study also discloses a tendency for dental clinic services to concentrate in Manhattan in spite of the trend of the population to other boroughs.

Since 1923, when the first survey was made, the clinics have increased from 104 to 152. Of the 56 new clinics established during the last 5 years, 35 clinics, or 65 per cent of the total, are in Manhattan. Twelve new clinics, or 21 per cent, are in Brooklyn; 5 clinics, or 9 per cent, in the Bronx; 3 clinics, or 5 per cent, in Richmond.

The study shows that most of the clinics serve only persons living in a specified area, members of a definite group of people such as club members in a settlement house, or patients within certain hospitals. Only one-fourth of the clinics serve the general patient.

Few of the clinics approach self-support, the survey reveals, but, in most cases, the fees charged enable them to be partially self-supporting. The fees vary from no charge in the case of 23 clinics to a fee of $1.50 for one clinic. The common admission fee, however, is $.25. Exclusive of all plant costs which include heat, light, rent and original equipment, the cost of dental care in clinics is estimated at between $3.00 and $3.50 an hour.

The Committee on Community Dental Service of the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association is planning this winter's program in view of the recommendations suggested by this survey. It is making a study of the population centers most in need of dental clinic facilities. It is attempting to interest the individuals and organizations of these districts in providing means to supply services where the need is greatest.

Los Angeles School District—School health officials will find interesting the 1926–27 report of the Department of Health and Corrective Physical Education of the Los Angeles City Schools. The department is divided into 30 sections and has a personnel of 315, including a medical director, 5 assistant directors, 30 physician inspectors, 29 physician consultants, 12 dentists, 62 nurse inspectors, 10 nurse teachers in high schools and 70 physical education teachers, among others. During the year 165,321 children were given physical examinations. According to the report children are examined upon entrance and at least every third year unless special defects require more constant supervision.

Every applicant seeking appointment
on the teaching staff of the city schools has had a careful examination as to
classical education. A total of 2,550
teachers were examined during the year.
The corrective physical education section after 8 years of growth is able
to reach approximately 50,000 children
yearly with special care. All the senior
and junior high schools have corrective
rooms with teachers in charge. Since
January, 1926, there have been 13 cor-
rective physical education centers in op-
eration to care for elementary children.
From various schools children are sent
with bad posture, flat feet, heart affec-
tions, nutrition disturbances and para-
lyses. Once a month an orthopedic spe-
cialist examines the most extreme cases
of indigent paralytic children. The
medical supervision of the examination
is cared for by a special physician. It
is also stated that 9,000 children with
heart defects have been aided by this
department.
"The value of nutrition classes is
being realized as time advances and the
work has had an opportunity to prove
itself. Reports on improvement in
school work, physical appearance, con-
centration, cooperation, disposition and
general health have been received from
the principals in schools where classes
were conducted."
Open air sun rooms have been con-
ducted in 10 schools. Eight health
centers are utilized in addition to a
Traveling Health Unit. The Parent-
Teacher Associations cooperate fully in
the school health program. The report
concludes with a detailed statistical
summary of defects found and corrected
during the year.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Whither Mankind. A Panorama of Mod-
ern Civilization. Edited by Charles A.
408 pp. Price, $3.00.
Wheat Flour and Diet. By G. O. Swanson.
Price, $2.50.
Parents and Children. By Ernest R. Groves
and Gladys Hoagland Groves. Philadelphia: 
Bacteriology. A Text-Book of Micro-
or ganisms. By Fred Wilbut Tanner. New
Conference of Social Work, Memphis,
Tenn., May 2–9, 1928. Chicago: Univer-
An Introduction to Practical Bacteri-
ology. (2d ed.) By T. J. Mackie and J.
The Doctor Looks at Marriage and Medi-
cine. By Joseph Collins. New York:
Doubleday, Doran, 1928. 313 pp. Price,
$3.00.
Handbook on Venereal Diseases. By W.
Turner Warwick. London: Faber & 
Gwyer, 1928. 221 pp. Price, $2.00.
The Principles and Practice of the Dilu-
tion Method of Sewage Disposal. By W.
161 pp. Price, $5.00.
The Home Dietitian. (3d ed.) Compiled
by Ella Mae Ives. Philadelphia: David
Why Not Grow Young? Or, Living for
Longevity. By Robert W. Service. New-
Partnerships, Combinations and Antago-
nisms in Disease. By Edward C. B. Ibot-
Price, $3.50.
The Kahn Test. A Practical Guide. By
R. L. Kahn. Baltimore: Williams & Wil-
kins, 1928. 201 pp. Price, $4.00.