

## MEDICAL CLINIC REAL HAVEN FOR "MISFITS"

State University Medical College Conducts Remarkable Welfare Service

"Misfortune's gathering place" is an appropriate title that could readily be applied to a free general dispensary, and the attendance is limited only by the capacity of the dispensary to care for the needs of misfortune's victims, if conclusions can be drawn by attendance at the Research hospital of the State Department of Public Welfare managed by the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago.

This vast throng of unfortunates is made up of every type of person, many of whom through no fault of their own, find themselves unable to pay for medical aid. Business reverses, unemployment, accidents, long drawn out illnesses, and what not, have depleted their means and they are compelled to seek the dispensary for aid, according to officials of the hospital.

### World Full of Misfits

"The world is full of misfits; individuals who cannot get along with their associates, who never find agreeable, continuous employment, always on their uppers. These find their way in large numbers to the public dispensary," one of the doctors in charge states.

"Their care is one of the outstanding problems of the staff. They never were able to adjust themselves in life and they do not fit themselves into the necessary routine that must obtain where large numbers are cared for."

Another considerable number are the neurotics, wandering from doctor to doctor, from clinic to clinic, irritable, dissatisfied, seeking relief from a multitude of ills that exist in their imaginations alone.

Many are the interesting missions the state is doing through the university and the Welfare department: The expectant mother is received and examined and instructed how she must live. From ten to fourteen days after she has entered the hospital she is sent home with her baby. Periodic visits to the dispensary are then resumed until the mother and child are doing well. Three hundred and fifty-five babies were born in the hospital last year.

### Examine School Pupils

"General medicine" is the largest department of the dispensary. Here special divisions care for cardiac or heart cases, and disordered metabolism and diabetics receive treatment. In the eye clinic, the second largest department, thousands of school children, sent by the Board of Education, have their eyes examined. Many a backward school child finds himself, and the stupid pupil with eyes that never really saw before, takes his place among his fellows after visiting this busy department.

One of the busiest, as well as noisiest, is the children's clinic held each morning from 10 to 12 where anxious mothers throng the rooms to learn to feed and clothe their babies properly. All of the ills of childhood form the gist for this mill. Last year more than 12,000 little children under twelve years of age were attended by the eighteen physicians, two nurses, and social worker in charge.

### Twelve Departments

The dispensary is divided into twelve departments; medicine, ophthalmology, otolaryngology, Genite-urinary, neurology, orthopedics, surgery, dermatology, pediatrics, gynecology, obstetrics, and oral surgery. There are more than 100 doctors, 9 trained nurses, a pharmacist and 6 assistants, 5 clerks, social workers and others who attend to the needs of the unfortunates in this clinic

giving them all of the benefits that medical science has discovered in the training of disease. In return for the money expended by the university for the dispensary, medical students receive practical, first hand instruction; the physicians give their time and knowledge free in exchange for their gain in experience, and the patients receive the best care that medical skill and service can give.

Mrs. Charles Sommer, 425 Provident avenue, who has been in Florida and Havana for the past six weeks, returned to Winnetka last week.

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