

mental hygiene, in the care of crippled children, and in the control of tuberculosis and of cancer. Arthur W. Towne, former Secretary of the Syracuse Associated Charities and of the Syracuse Boys' Clubs, has recently been appointed General Director of the Onondaga Association. Mr. Towne has served as Secretary of the New York State Probation Commission, as General Secretary of the Brooklyn Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, and as legislative assistant of the Committee on Tuberculosis and Public Health of the New York State Charities Aid Association.

ACTIVITIES OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

With the experience of the first year available, considerable thought has been given of late to the five-year health program being carried out in Cattaraugus County as a part of the New York Health Demonstrations of the Milbank Memorial Fund. The State Charities Aid Association, in consultation with the Cattaraugus County operating agencies, the New York State Departments of Health and Education, and interested national agencies, has been authorized to present the rural demonstration program, revised in the light of experience to date. This revision was the subject of conferences held recently in the offices of the State Charities Aid Association in New York City and in the offices of the Cattaraugus County Board of Health in Olean, to which representatives of the Association, the Board and of other organizations interested, contributed thought and suggestions.

When completed, this program will outline plans for meeting the major health problems now apparent in the county and for correlating the results of the county demonstration with those anticipated from the other areas chosen for these New York demonstrations. As outlined at

the meeting on August 21, 1922, of the Technical Board of the Milbank Fund, the scope of the New York Health Demonstrations includes maternity, infant, pre-school and child hygiene; industrial hygiene; mental and social hygiene; general sanitation; the control of diseases of adult life (primarily by means of periodic medical examinations and the necessary follow-up work, etc.); the prevention of tuberculosis; and the dissemination of popular health education. In presenting the program, an attempt will be made to consider all of the factors now expected to enter into demonstrations in carrying out these functions outlined by the Technical Board—to determine what activity should be undertaken; when it should be initiated; the estimated annual cost of each activity from January 1, 1923, to December 31, 1927; and the total estimated cost of the rural county demonstration.

The Advisory Committee on Nutrition has prepared a program for Cattaraugus County which, after observation of the food habits of at least 100 families, will include efforts to improve diet standards; the inauguration of the Modern Health Crusade in some parts of the county; the organization of a nutrition class to focus attention upon the problems of nutrition; and the granting of a scholarship to one of the physicians in the county so that he may come to New York for special study of nutrition.

Following a recommendation of the Statistical Advisory Committee, of which Professor Walter F. Willcox of Cornell University is Chairman, the present and future statistical problems presented by the Demonstrations are receiving careful attention. It is recognized that there must be a minimum of uniform data for both the demonstration and the control areas, but beyond these basic general needs each demonstration unit will be assisted in the development

of such statistical service as it should maintain on a permanent basis under its own auspices.

Minimum data of various kinds must be compiled and analyzed in the demonstration and control areas so that the outstanding facts and figures for each unit may be compared at any time. The scope of the records will include, among other things, such factors as nursing service, school health examinations, communicable disease incidence, administrative costs, birth rates, death rates, clinic attendance, and laboratory service. Uniform records will be devised and installed, and every effort will be made to secure such units of measurement as will make the results of the demonstrations readily available for the country at large, and from various points of view.

The relative cost of the different subdivisions of the work under rural and urban conditions will be studied in a manner so that authoritative figures may ultimately be presented.

At a recent meeting of the Statistical Advisory Committee, it was recommended that a statistician be engaged to assist the operating agencies in developing under local auspices in the demonstration areas, such statistical services as are necessary to the success of the entire project. Through arrangements with the National Tuberculosis Association, Miss Jessamine S. Whitney, statistician of that organization and a member of the advisory committee, has been granted a temporary leave of absence to accept this appointment. Miss Whitney has completed preliminary field studies and has outlined a program of statistical services necessary to measure the progress of the demonstrations and to appraise their ultimate results.

