

**CHILDHOOD SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY
OF THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL
CONDITIONS OF CHILDREN,
TRANSACTIONS, VOL. II, PARTS I, II,
BEING THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
SOCIETY FOR THE YEARS 1902, 1903**

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Various

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Childhood Society

FOR THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL
CONDITIONS OF CHILDREN.

18321

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Br. Hon. EARL EGERTON OF TATTON.

TRANSACTIONS, VOL. II.,

PART I.

BEING

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY
FOR THE YEAR 1902.

PRICE HALF-A-CROWN.

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W. J. DUBRIE MULFORD.

Offices:

PARKES MUSEUM, MARGARET STREET, LONDON, W.

1903.

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Childhood Society

FOR THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL CONDITIONS
OF CHILDREN.

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THE OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

To promote the study of educational methods and of the environment of children during school life, best suited to ensure the mental and physical development of normal children, as well as of those whose conditions are abnormal, or who are feebly gifted mentally.

To supply information and diffuse knowledge on points connected with the mental and physical status of children, by means of publications, lectures, &c.

To promote the training of teachers specially qualified to deal with such children; and assist by legislation, philanthropic efforts, or otherwise, the provision necessary for them.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO MEMBERS.

The annual subscription of a member is half-a-guinea.

Members will have the privilege of attending all meetings for the reading of papers, or discussion, and all lectures given for the Society, and of borrowing books from the Library, and will receive copies of such reports as the Council may publish for general distribution.

A member may introduce one friend to the ordinary meetings of the Society.

Teachers of Hygiene and teachers of "Special Classes" are admitted as Associate members, without the privilege of voting at Business Meetings or of receiving the printed Transactions, by payment of an annual subscription of half-a-crown.

Societies, Boards of Guardians, and other public bodies are invited to join the Society as affiliated bodies, and may present to the Council questions arising on the care of children for discussion and report.

Childhood Society

FOR THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL CONDITIONS
OF CHILDREN.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1902.

Read at the Annual Meeting on March 19th, 1903.

In submitting the Sixth Annual Report the Council have to record the continued progress and development of the work of the Society during the year 1902, notably in the issue of the first Volume of Transactions, and the holding of a successful Provincial meeting at Manchester.

The membership has increased to a total of 96, including 14 Hon. Corresponding Members, 61 Members, 21 Associates. During the year 11 Members and 4 Associates were elected.

It is with regret that the decease of the following Members has to be recorded: Dr. J. H. Gladstone, Miss Johanna Hill, and Professor Withers.

PARLIAMENTARY.

The Royal Commission on Physical Training, Scotland, afforded the Council an opportunity of presenting some results of the Society's investigations, and these were given in evidence before the Commission by the Chairman of Council, Dr. Francis Warner. The Reports of the Society and a volume of the Transactions were forwarded to the Commission. Evidence was given as to the effect of general physical training in schools in developing healthy growth, and more particularly to the benefit of educative physical training in improving brain power, and in preventing and removing indolence and the signs of nervousness. Statistical evidence from the Society's Reports was given, and special methods of training were explained. Questions were asked by the Commission as to children of various degrees of defect, and as to the care required for the feeble-minded; special attention being directed to the greater frequency of congenital defect

among boys. The methods that were employed in the examination of 100,000 children in schools were explained as a suggestion with regard to the reference to the Commission of the desirability of obtaining a general census of the conditions of children in school attendance.

LONDON UNIVERSITY.

The following Memorandum on Instruction in Mental Science adapted to the practice of Education was prepared and submitted for the consideration of the Senate, suggesting that a systematic course of instruction should be provided in "Mental Science for Teachers," based upon Physiology and Natural History as applied to the observation of children and description of the indications of their brain status, including demonstrations given in a practising school, so that students may become acquainted with, and practised in, the methods of studying the child material upon which their professional work is to be employed.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

At the request of a Special Committee appointed by the British Association to consider the conditions of health essential to carrying out the course of instruction in schools, a representative was appointed to assist in their investigations. A Report was prepared by the Committee and presented to the Association at Belfast, dealing with "Anthropometrical and Physiological Observations," "Knowledge of Hygiene possessed by Teachers," &c.

MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Council having been invited to express an opinion on this subject, it was decided "To approve of the proposal for the appointment of a Minister of Public Health (with Cabinet rank), and the development of the Health Department of the Local Government Board into a separate Ministry."

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE WELFARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN.

Several members of the Council attended this Congress, which was held in London in July, as Delegates from the Society.