BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE EDUCATION AND CARE OF CRIPPLED CHILDREN

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Bibliography of the Education and Care of Crippled Children by Douglas C. McMurtrie

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DOUGLAS C. MCMURTRIE

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A MANUAL AND GUIDE TO THE LITERATURE RELATING TO CRIPPLES TOGETHER WITH AN ANALYTICAL INDEX

DOUGLAS C. McMURTRIE

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PREFACE

PERHAPS the best introduction to the present volume would be a description of the circumstances which led the writer to undertake its compilation. Several years ago I was asked to write a short article on the general features of care for crippled children. In formulating an outline for this article I planned to describe the main systems of care, make a statement regarding the extent and distribution of the present provision for crippled children, and sketch as a background the historical development of such work.

Having had some slight experience before in looking up subjects of sociological interest, I anticipated no difficulty in locating ample material on the education and care of crippled children. Following the usual procedure and, going to the public library in my own city, I consuited the index under the word "crippled." But one item was listed under this heading, and that was an inconsequential periodical article in German. Other cognate headings such as "deformed" or "physically defective" failed to reveal so much as a fragment of literature on the subject.

Being thus balked I went to the chief reference librarian and told him of my difficulty. He was inclined at first to discount my statement, feeling sure I was mistaken, but when he verified it for himself he was indeed surprised. It then occured to him that the material might be indexed among the medical literature, but a search of the index volumes of the Surgeon-General's Library failed to shed much more light on the question.

So while there were in the library literally hundreds of books on the care of the blind, the deaf and dumb, and the mentally defective, the cripple was practically entirely neglected. Before giving up my search, however, I consulted nearly every important library in the East and in each one found a similar situation.

In a general way I knew that there were some institutions abroad for the care of crippled children but was not aware of their locations or names. The only way in which I finally succeeded in reaching any institution outside of New York City was by a systematic search through hundreds of the public documents of foreign countries and the various states of this country. This tedious process eventually located for me about a dozen institutions in various parts of the world and with these I immediately instituted personal correspondence.

Having thus established some basis to work from, additional information came more easily. During the past three years I have corresponded with practically everyone throughout the world engaged in work for crippled children. It is to the universally hearty coopperation of these persons that I am indebted for much material in the present volume.

During the course of the work I have become impressed with the great scarcity of any comprehensive books or articles on the education and care of crippled children. Each person and institution seems to have worked out their own salvation without having the benefit of the mistakes made and successes achieved by others. There has been less interchange of experience than in any other field of social work with which I have come into contact.

It is reasonable to expect that anyone else starting on the same mission as myself would experience the same difficulties. To obviate the necessity of these for others is one object of the present volume. Another aim is to bring to those engaged in work for crippled children a definite statement of the available material bearing upon questions which may perplex them. The third purpose is to clear the ground, as it were, for further and more extensive scientific consideration of the principles affecting the education and care of crippled children.

Most hearty acknowledgment is made of my indebtedness to those writers on work for crippled children who have attempted anything like a general treatment of the subject. First among these must be named three German pioneers, Dr. Leonhard Rosenfeld of Nuremberg, Dr. Konrad Biesalski of Berlin, and D. Theodor Schäfer of Altona. Along national lines I would mention the published work of Dr. Robert W. Lovett of Boston, M. Paul Pastur of Charleroi, Belgium, Dr. P. Panum of Copenhagen, Denmark, and Mmes. Nanna and Agnes Fleischer of Christiania, Norway.

In the actual prosecution of the work I am under gratefully acknowledged obligation to Miss Catharine A. Bliss and Mrs. Henry B. Barnes, two true friends of the crippled children of New York City. I am also indebted to Dr. Hastings H. Hart and Miss Edith Reeves of the Russell Sage Foundation, and to Miss Dorothy Jacoby, besides many others too numerous to mention here, but to whom my gratitude is none the less sincere.

For much patient and courteous assistance in connection with the indexing and verification of references I am under obligation to the members of the staff of the library of the New York Academy of Medicine.

In compiling the present volume I have personally gone through most of the literature listed. This study and my personal correspondence with various institutions and persons have brought to me a large amount of material on the various phases of work for crippled children. It is my hope at some future date to prepare