

PEOPLES INSTITUTE AND PORTLAND FREE DISPENSARY

Report of Work of Dispensary for the Year 1928

The Portland Free Dispensary has completed another year with a substantial increase in the number of examinations and daily visits of patients as will be seen by the enclosed statistical report.

A number of changes have been made in the service and new and better equipment added that has been of benefit to the patients.

A complete new X-ray apparatus has made diagnostic X-ray more complete and efficient.

The Laboratory service has been reorganized under the direction of Dr. Edwin Osgood, to give better service along that line.

Under the direction of Dr. Lawrence Selling the Medical Clinics have been reorganized and the subsidiary clinical patients in Cardiac, Goitre, Diabetes, Dermatology, Neurology, Endocrine and Tuberculosis now have a complete medical history and physical examination, including necessary X-ray and Laboratory tests, before going into the special clinics.

The patients in the Diabetic clinics have the benefit of weekly classes in menu building with Mrs L. V. Boucher.

Sun Lamp and Zoalite treatment with massage are available to patients in all clinics through the Physical Therapy department which is daily proving of benefit.

A new chart system has been organized and is now being installed which will give much more efficient service to the patients and students.

This new charting system has made a reorganization of the filing and registration department necessary and the extra work has been handled very competently by the registrar and her assistants in the office.



The work in the Social Service Department continues to increase as the physicians find more occasion to ask assistance in solving social problems that have a bearing on the physical or mental condition of the patients.

A detailed report of the registrar's work and that of the Social Service Department is shown in the statistical report.

As the number of patients increases and the work of the various departments for diagnosis and treatment grows in efficiency the work of the Nursing Staff necessarily increases. One nurse has been added to the graduate staff in the Obstetrical department to care for the delivery service, going into the home with the obstetrician and students for the delivery and giving the necessary after care to the mother and child. The Prenatal service including four weekly clinics and home calls takes all the time of another nurse in the Obstetrical department.

In the general service the time of one nurse is fully occupied with the Metabolic Rates and the Physical Therapy.

Two student nurses from Good Samaritan Hospital have been sent down to the dispensary for experience in out-patient service for the past six years. This affiliation could be increased if the other hospitals of the city were able to participate in the same way.

Many hours of clerical and motor service have been given by the Junior League.

The value of the time given by members of the Medical Staff is beyond calculation.

The annual financial and statistical reports have been already presented.