from the national and State constitutions, from the city charter, and are supplemented by illustrations drawn from newspapers and other sources. The daily accounts, now appearing, of the activity of our State Legislature are in this way used as illustrative material in the discussion of the legislative department of the State. Similar notices of the work of Congress and of the City Council vitalize the discussions of the bare provisions of the United States Constitution and of the Baltimore City Charter. The rejection of the United States Senate in the latter part of Taft's administration of his appointee to the postmastership of Baltimore brings home to the class the power of that body in the ratification of Presidential appointments. The recent conference between representatives chosen from both houses of Congress to arrange disputed details of the Currency Bill furnished more illustrative material on the subject of legislative procedure. And, finally, the spectacular impeachment and removal of Sulzer presented a vivid and impressive picture of the mechanism provided in American Government for the removal from office of officails adjudged unfit by the representatives of the people. In a similar fashion the contemporaneous newspapers and periodicals afford data that can be employed to enliven the dry formalism of practically all constitutional rules.

It is to be recommended that some plan be devised for keeping in touch with the products of the citizenship classes. Indeed, it is a serious question worthy of careful consideration, whether or not it is advisable to adopt some such plan as the following: Every night during the two weeks preceding an election, particularly municipal and State elections, there should be held meetings open to those who have attended the citizenship classes and have received their papers. These meetings should be addressed by a person, notoriously fair and independent, who is to give an impartial and non-partisan account of the records of all candidates for important offices. In this way it should be possible to substitute for the influence of a partisan and frequently untruthful street-corner orator the influence of non-partisan, truthful and high-minded citizens.

L. W.

Baltimore.

Subsequent History

of Sanatoria Patients

The report of the investigation carried on by the Council of Jewish Women is worth reading. The medical study reported by Dr. Bolduan shows that the mortality rate corresponds with the seriousness of the disease as it is regarded by those who come most in contact with it. While the figures give rise to grave reflections, it is unnecessary to say any more about them, as they form but a repetition—not uncalled for, however—of the result of similar studies.

The social study carried out by Miss Sadie American arrests interest on account of the evident emotion involved in the report, and the vigor and clearness with which the sociological inferences from the figures presented are reached. The sore points in our campaign against tuberculosis are well emphasized. Quite clearly the picture shows that we have so far been sweeping back with a broom the great ocean of evil resulting from the present economic structure of society. Society takes a small, very small, fraction of the profits of its industrial system and attempts pitiably and inadequately to compensate for the human damage and destruction at present implicated in that system; therefore, the need of what Miss American terms before-care. Especial attention is directed to the need of industrial colonies, industrial aid, and the medical and social supervision of the families of those resident in sanatoria. Extremely worthy as a palliative measure is the recommendation for a longer period of residence in sanatoria. Although the report does not analyze this period of residence, it is true that our tuberculosis sanatoria are strongly deficient, with a few honorable exceptions (*e. g.,* Jewish Consumptive Hospital in Baltimore) in this matter.

In the entire report Miss American shows herself well oriented in the essentials of the anti-tuberculosis campaign, and in some respects even ahead of it. She is to be commended, too, for not refraining from putting considerable blame for the high mortality rate on our economic social structure.

Samuel Wolman.

VOLUNTEER SOCIAL WORK AS VIEWED BY A VOLUNTEER

Voluntary labor of any sort has a tendency to develop the mind and character of the volunteer; since it is a failing of the human race to see more clearly, and take advantage more eagerly, of the opportunities which present themselves to all, when no warning voice of authority says "thou must" or "thou must not," this, of course, is true of voluntary social work. Social work in itself, voluntary or involuntary, offers countless chances of broadening one's ideas of life in general, since it brings the worker in close contact with so many people; so many different races; so many different classes, and so many conditions of life; and so we can say that voluntary social work is a builder of character and a developer of the mind.

Now the volunteer, from the very fact that she offers her services gratuitously, we can assume, belongs to that very fortunate or unfortunate class that we call the "leisure class," and her entrance into the world of social uplift may be attributed to several different reasons. Firstly, she may really feel a desire to help those less fortunate than she and have a real sympathy for them, in which case her work will be rather successful, inasmuch as sympathy and tact are its most necessary attributes. Secondly, as is the case a great number of times, she may enter into it as a means of having something to do during her leisure hours, and with no thought of the poor or her work among them. Thirdly, she may be suffering from ennui, a disease so common to the leisure class, and feel that she would like her life to amount to more than it has heretofore; the idea not being to uplift the poor, but to rescue her own mental qualities from the well of torpitude into which they have sunk.

In any of these instances her first appearance in the slums of the city fill her with an indescribable mixture of emotions. In the first instance, her sympathy may make her see conditions as they exist, from the viewpoint of the people themselves; but in the last two the volunteer cannot place herself on their plane. Her work seems to be a sort of lark, arranged particularly for her benefit; and poverty, with its grim companions—sickness, hunger and death—seems unreal. Her first few appearances into the homes fill her with lothing for the dismal, cold halls, and dirt-littered steps, and the two or three rooms filled with noisy, half-clad children and untidy, greasy women. A sigh of relief heralds her exit from the slums, and her entrance into her own well-kept, clean home; and surrounded by her own luxury, the poverty of her sisters and brothers is as if it never existed before her. Her work has been just as mechanical as that of a bookkeeper or stenographer, who closes his books at the end of the day, no wiser than he had been before. These are the first few days of the volunteer's work, and then suddenly an incident occurs, which creates a mental metamorphosis, unknown to the volunteer. She is sent on an errand particularly to her liking—something in which she is really interested—consciously or unconsciously. It may be to take a child to school or to the doctor's, a thing very trivial in itself, but large enough to arouse a feeling of protection and love for this child, who places his hand so confidingly in hers, in the heart of the volunteer. Mother love, which is an inherent quality of every woman's disposition, has been aroused in her, and yet she doesn't quite realize it yet. And each day she is sent on some errand of comfort and cheer, and each day some latent quality which she never knew she possessed evidences itself; until one day, when the weather is too bad to go out, she realizes with a start of surprise that she misses her work and her people, and she feels that the day is being wasted; that she misses the squalid homes and the noisy babies, and that to stand aside and think of them is not the pleasure that to stand with them and help them to look up to a newer, brighter day is.

And so the voluntary social work does more for the volunteer than any work could have done. It does not only develop her mind and character, but it arouses in her dormant qualities that she unconsciously possessed; it has made her realize that her life is only one among thousands less fortunate and less strong, and that she must be a bulwark of strength to them. It has made her what God intended she should be—a woman, and at heart what every woman is—a mother.

Ethel C. Meyer.

Baltimore.