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Practical Work. Public Health Students.

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Easter Vacation 1936.

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I had permission from this Committee at the last meeting to arrange practical work abroad for three students. This was done very successfully through the National Committees of the Foundation and where these did not exist, through old students.

Owing to the kindness of the League of Red Cross Societies, the students were able to see some rural work in France. They visited Soissons where there is an organisation doing particularly good work and I consider that this was time well spent. Of the other places visited, I think that the work in Jugoslavia was the most successful because the best planned. The work here - in Zagreb and the surrounding villages is pioneer work planned particularly for introducing a general scheme of health education among the peasant population. The State Hygiene Institution in Zagreb has close supervision over the development of the work and it is well organised on uniform lines. The nurse is playing an active part in this scheme. Both here and in Hungary where the scheme is similar the work our students see is something they cannot see in England where the general scheme is older and more complicated. I think this type of observation is particularly useful for students returning to countries with somewhat similar problems. Both Miss Bridges and Miss Abelgas have made excellent use of their time and have careful notes of what they saw.

The visit to Hungary was disappointing; mainly owing to staff difficulties in that country, which prevented their being able to make good arrangements for the students.

I think that in the near future France and Jugoslavia should be able to give our students what they require outside England.

Miss Flambert has completed the practical work necessary for her Health Visitor's Examination, which she sits for in July. I have had exceptionally good reports of her from the Medical Officers and Nursing Superintendents for whom she had worked, and I think she should make a particularly good Health Visitor.