

In March, 1894, an examination in both theoretical and practical laundry-work was held. There were twenty-three students who presented themselves for examination; three passed first class, and twenty passed second class; certificates of proficiency, recognised by the Education Department, were awarded. Some of these students have been appointed by the School Board for London as teachers in laundry-work.

The following is the report of the examiner on the examination held in 1894: "I am glad to be able to give a most favourable report of the papers on the theory of laundry-work. They give evidence of thorough knowledge and a good, clear method of explaining it. These students have evidently studied the subject with real interest, and are likely to make interesting teachers."

HOUSEWIFERY.

Classes for Girls.—The Joint Committee have also established classes for instructing girls in housewifery. The Drapers' Company generously gave the sum of £250 to establish and equip these classes, and to maintain them for one year; and they promised a further sum of £250 (as part of the gross sum of £1,000 for manual-training purposes) to pay for the maintenance for at least another year. The School Board, through the works committee, prepared premises connected with the Board School at William Street, Hammersmith, and fitted three rooms—one as a bedroom, one as a living-room, and one as a kitchen—the necessary fittings and apparatus for teaching purposes being supplied. On the 4th July, 1891, the classes were inaugurated at a public meeting held at the school by the chairman and several members of the Joint Committee; and demonstrations in the practical work of washing and ironing, making beds, lighting fires, cleaning and dusting rooms, arrangement of furniture, setting breakfast- and dinner-tables, cleaning cutlery and fire-irons and fenders, black-leading grates, and the general routine of a day's work in the house of a working-man, were given under the direction of the instructor and her assistants. There have been about three hundred girls passed through the housewifery classes. These classes are held on Saturday mornings only, and are attended by twenty to thirty girls.

The aim of the lessons is to give the girls such *practical* knowledge of domestic work as may fit them in the future to conduct their homes creditably. The instructor exercises her discretion in apportioning the subjects, but the classes are worked more or less to the following syllabus:—

SYLLABUS FOR THE TEACHING OF HOUSEWIFERY.

First Stage—Every Day's Work.

Lesson I.—(1) Guiding principles to insure health and happiness; (2) selection of a house—drainage, sanitation; (3) hints on the furnishing of the home.

Lesson II.—(1) Chief items of a week's household work; practical work; lighting a fire and tidying the hearth and living-room.

Lesson III.—(1) An ordinary day's work in a working-man's home; (2) rules for setting a breakfast-table; (3) practical work; laying breakfast-table; revision.

Lesson IV.—(1) The composition of the air we breathe; (2) different impurities; (3) simple methods of ventilation for home, illustrated and explained.

Lesson V.—(1) The importance of airing a bed, directions for the same; (2) rules for bed-making; (3) practical work, making a bed.

Lesson VI.—(1) The principles involved in the variety and selection of foods, their preparation and arrangement for meals; importance of regularity in meals; rules for eating, and behaviour at table; (2) directions and practice in setting the dinner-table.

Lesson VII.—(1) Tidying the kitchen; (2) rules for the tea-table; (3) making the tea; (4) washing dishes, glass, pots and pans.

Lesson VIII.—(1) Cleaning windows and sills, various methods; (2) cleaning entrance, door-steps, and passage; (3) written examination.

Lesson IX.—Revision of the whole of first stage, and questions on the same; recapitulation of the practical work.

Second Stage—Special Work for Regular Days.

Lesson X.—(1) Directions for cleaning a bedroom; (2) sweeping an uncarpeted room; (3) practical work on the same.

Lesson XI.—(1) Dust, its several kinds, the harm it may do; (2) directions for dusting; (3) practical work.

Lesson XII.—(1) Cleaning water-bottles, hair-brushes, and marble; (2) practical work on the same.

Lesson XIII.—(1) Black-leading a grate; (2) cleaning fender and fire-irons, both steel and brass; revision of Lesson II.—first stage; (3) practical work.

Lesson XIV.—(1) Cleaning a sitting-room; (2) sweeping a carpeted floor; (3) directions for cleaning linoleum and oilcloth; (4) practical work.

Lesson XV.—(1) Brushing of furniture; (2) how to make furniture-polish; (3) directions for the polishing of furniture.

Lesson XVI.—(1) Cleaning lamps; (2) precautions in using lamps and oil; (3) suitable lamps; (4) how to put out a fire from a lamp being upset.

Lesson XVII.—(1) Kitchen-work, such as boot-cleaning, cleaning of knives and silver; (2) practical work.

Lesson XVIII.—Continuation of kitchen-work, including the scrubbing of tables, the cleaning of steps, the removal of kitchen refuse, &c