

to assert that there is hardly a Nurse at the South Western Fever Hospital who is not fully alive to the importance of the "Dramatic Complexion" by which I mean the fine white powdering which occurs on the surface of the still brightly flushed cheek; and so closely resembles that artistic concoction compounded of powder and rouge, which is to be met with in front of the footlights. The appearance to which I refer, might perhaps more properly be compared to the bloom on a ripe peach, and I know of nothing which more enhances the natural beauty of a beautiful child than this scarlatinal complexion. The triumph of Nature over Art can hardly be more fitly illustrated than by instituting a comparison between a row of the bright-faced little inhabitants of a scarlet fever ward, and an assemblage of fashionable ladies decorated according to the usages of modern society.

The period of convalescence from scarlet fever, at any rate for the first three weeks, is one which calls for the most watchful attention of the Nurse; and it is here that the value of special training is evident, for it is the time when there is a liability to various complications. The earlier they are recognised and brought under treatment, the more favourable will often be the issue.

Inflammation, attended with pain and discharge from the ear passages, inflammations of the glands of the neck and kidneys, albuminuria, rheumatism and eczema, are the most frequent, and call for prompt attention. With the exception of rheumatism, which most often affects older patients, children in proportion to their youth are most liable to all of these affections, and demand the greatest watchfulness on the part of the Nurse.

The mortality from scarlet fever is rather less than five per cent., if patients of all ages and stations are included. That is about one patient in rather more than twenty will die of the disease. But the death rate is highest in infancy, and diminishes with each year of life.

In view of this fact, and that the liability to take the disease itself also diminishes with each year of life after the age of five years, that most pernicious practice, which is still followed by some people, viz., of voluntarily exposing a child to the infection of scarlet fever, on the score that it is bound to take it sooner or later, and that it had better get it over when young, cannot be too strongly condemned. The practice is simply homicidal, and should be criminally treated at law, and I trust, that should you ever get the opportunity, you will at once point out the absolute iniquity of the proceeding.

(To be continued.)

The "NURSING RECORD" has a Larger Sale than any other Journal devoted solely to Nursing Work.

Nursing Echoes.

* * * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.



I VENTURE to remind my readers that the last meeting of the R.B.N.A. for this Session will be held to-night (Thursday) at 3, Hanover Square, when Dr. FREDERICK CAIGER will conclude his very interesting and valuable Lectures on Fevers and their Nursing, which are now appearing in this journal. I am told that it has been found impossible to hold the meeting, as originally arranged, at 20, Hanover Square, and so the commodious hall of the Zoological Society will once more be utilised. I would strongly advise all the Nurses, who can do so, to avail themselves of the opportunity and attend this Lecture. I understand that tickets (price one shilling each) can be obtained from the offices of the Association, or at the door of the Hall this evening.

I AM glad to hear that Miss ADA PLUMB has been appointed Matron of the Chelsea Hospital for Women. Miss PLUMB was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, then worked for some time in connection with the Metropolitan and National District Nursing Association in Bloomsbury, and for about two years has acted as Sister of Wards at the Hospital for Women, Soho Square, so that her previous experience will materially assist her in the important post she has now obtained. I am told that Miss PLUMB is a member of the R.B.N.A. and a Registered Nurse.

I CONGRATULATE Miss ELIZA J. CARTWRIGHT upon her appointment as Matron of the New Hospital for Women, which has fittingly followed the several years during which she has acted as Assistant Matron of the Institution. Miss CARTWRIGHT was trained and received her certificate at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and is a member of the R.B.N.A. and a Registered Nurse.

I HAVE received several letters lately, asking why I have not chronicled the writers' various appointments, but I must humbly point out that I am not gifted with, what the Scotch call, "second sight." It will always give me much pleasure to record the

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