

commences immediately the ventricle has finished contracting, and is due to the closure of the semilunar valves. It is supposed to be due to their stretching, consequent upon the sudden removal of pressure from their under surfaces.

Cardiac Impulse is the term applied to the beat of the heart, which we feel in the fifth left intercostal space. It is due to the change in shape of the heart.

Frequency.—The heart normally beats 70 times a minute; this number is affected by position. It is least when lying down, five more when sitting up, and 15 more when standing up. It is also increased by exercise, digestion, excitement, and after severe bleeding.

Whatever be the number of contractions per minute the length of time occupied by systole is practically of the same duration, the variable quantity being the diastole.

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)



THE Autumn Session of Educational Lectures to be delivered at 17, Old Cavendish Street, W., and which are under the immediate patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Christian the President, are now finally settled to take place on the following dates and times:—

Elementary Anatomy.—Twelve Lectures by W. J. Walsham, F.R.C.S., on Tuesdays, commencing October 2nd, at 4.30 p.m.

Physiology.—Twelve Lectures by A. Schofield, M.D., on Wednesdays, commencing October 3rd, at 4 p.m.

Hygiene.—Twelve Lectures by Louis C. Parkes, M.D., D.P.H., M.O.H. Chelsea, on Thursdays, commencing October 4th, at 4.30 p.m.

Practical Nursing.—Twelve Lectures by Miss Isla Stewart (Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital), on Mondays, commencing October 1st, at 4 p.m.

Ward Management and Domestic Economy.—Six Lectures by Miss de Pledge (Matron of the Chelsea Infirmary), on alternate Fridays, commencing October 12th, at 4 p.m.

Terms:—For the Complete Educational Course, £8 8s.; for One Course of Lectures, £2 2s.; for a Single Lecture, 5s. For Members and those engaged in practical nursing, Half Fees.

At the close of each Course, an Examination will be held, and certificates granted. H.R.H. Princess Christian has graciously signified her intention of bestowing a prize on the Nurse who, after having attended the lectures and examination, shall show herself most proficient in the subject of Practical Nursing.

Alice Ravenhill,
Secretary to the Corporation.

Nursing Echoes.

* * * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.



HER Royal Highness Princess CHRISTIAN has been recently staying at Bad Nauheim in Germany, and is now the guest of Her Imperial Majesty the Empress FREDERICK, at Cronberg.

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IT is always pleasant to hear of goodwill and fellowship in Hospital life between the Matron and the Staff, and few Hospitals are happier in such expressions than the Lincoln County Hospital. Miss BEACHCROFT, the Lady Superintendent, has recently completed her tenth year of superintendence of the Nursing department at this Hospital, and is most deservedly popular. A very happy tea-party was arranged to celebrate the Matron's Hospital birthday, and this, although entirely confined to the Nursing staff, proved a very merry one. The Nurses took occasion to present Miss BEACHCROFT with a most handsome set of hair brushes, comb, and hand-glass, in ebony and silver, each article bearing the monogram C. M. B. The servants also presented Miss BEACHCROFT with a charming tea-service of white china and an oaken tray.

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THERE have lately appeared in some of our contemporaries charges made by a late resident medical officer of the Kimberley Hospital, concerning the management of that Hospital, in which we find statements made against Sister HENRIETTA, the well-known and much respected Sister-in-charge of the Institution. The work which this devoted woman has accomplished for good in our profession, as the pioneer of scientific Nursing in South Africa, and as the leader of all professional progress and reform in that country, leads us to make the following statement. We may add that, some weeks ago, these same assertions were sent to us for publication; but, having investigated the matter, and finding the statements entirely inaccurate, we of course did not give them publicity, especially as we discovered that they savoured strongly of personal feeling.

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IT is now nearly eighteen years since Sister HENRIETTA, of All Saints', took charge of the little house, containing eight beds only, which has since grown, largely owing to her exertions, into the

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