

officer of a public institution. Were the officer a man they would not attempt to ruin his character and professional career without advancing proofs of his incompetence, and if the Matron is wise she will compel them to treat her in the same judicial manner.

The Sanitary Congress at Leeds.

A HEARTY welcome was extended by the Lord Mayor of Leeds to the delegates and visitors to the Sanitary Congress on Tuesday, of which Dr. Robert Farquharson, M.P., is President.

The President delivered an admirable address, which was full of matter suggesting books and lines of study for the more advanced, and dealing with modern life from the point of view of the accomplished physician as well as from that of a member of Parliament. A strong protest was made against the monotony of modern labour; due importance was accorded to recent researches as affecting organs of the body, which have been elevated into a new place; and a caution was given as to the certainty that new diseases would have to be encountered as old ones declined. Tested by percentages, our progress in reducing deaths would not be so great in the future as it had been in the past. From 14 to 15 per 1000 would be about the lowest death rate we could reasonably hope to attain, but life might be made brighter and more enjoyable to the end.

There were some dark blots to be considered. Country houses were often whited sepulchres; the smoke of towns had not been sensibly abated; nerve diseases were increasing; and heads of households and municipal bodies had much to do in mitigating domestic and town evils. Dr. Farquharson expressed a poor opinion of the House of Commons in its dealing with public health. Private members could do little but clear the way for Governmental action, and Government could not do much until a Ministry of Health was established to co-ordinate into one harmonious whole the scattered and perplexing threads of sanitary legislation. Loud applause greeted the close of a brilliant address.

The Ladies' Conference on Domestic Hygiene opened on Wednesday—to which we hope to do justice next week.

Appointment.

MISS CLARA HICKMOTT has been appointed Assistant Matron at the Western Fever Hospital, Fulham. She was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she took a high place at her final examination in 1896. Later in the year, Miss Hickmott was appointed Assistant Matron at the Metropolitan Convalescent Home at Walton-on-Thames.

Nursing Echoes.

* * * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



MISS MIRIAM RIDLEY has resigned the position of Matron to the Hospital for Paralysis and Epilepsy, Regent's Park, upon her approaching marriage with Dr. Bridges, of Brighton. Many of our readers who know and admire Miss Ridley, will, whilst wishing her every happiness in the future, recognize the great loss which the nursing world will sustain by the retirement from active work of a lady who has done so much to adorn its ranks.

WE are informed that "daily nurses" can now be obtained from St. John's House, Norfolk Street, Strand. St. John's House is to be congratulated upon adopting a form of private nursing, of which we believe the public will largely avail themselves in the future, and which is calculated to meet the need of the middle classes for skilled nursing, at a price which they can afford to pay. St. John's House is peculiarly well qualified to try the experiment, as its reputation for supplying excellent nurses is well established, and from its position in the centre of clubland and hotel-land, the daily nurse is likely to supply a want. We shall be interested to hear the result of this new venture when the work has been longer established. We understand that the articles which have from time to time appeared in the *Nursing Record* concerning daily nursing in America and elsewhere, first suggested to the authorities the scheme which has now been adopted.

WE have, in a previous issue, drawn attention to the admirable Nurses' Report Book, for Day and Night, arranged for three weeks, by Miss C. M. Löhr, Member of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and Matron of the Cottage Hospital, Potter's Bar. The book should prove specially useful to private nurses, as well as to nurses on duty with special cases, and we should advise them to write to Miss Löhr and obtain a copy. The report books are 9d. each, or 6s. a dozen.

By the fund raised in the town of Northfleet, Kent, for the commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee, the poor of that town will in future have the services of a district nurse from the hospital in the neighbouring town of Gravesend.

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