

"The ward work is very hard and trying. Each ward contains several small rooms, and yellow-fever patients must be constantly classified and the milder cases kept separated from the more severe ones. Before death they are nearly always delirious, and we give them single rooms, have boards at the side of the bed, and a man constantly sitting beside them. Each case is like a case on private duty, and the treatment cold water, very little medication being used. Every patient has a cleansing bath each morning and clean linen. For a week, more or less, no milk or nourishment of any sort is given, as the stomach usually will retain nothing. Then we begin with half an ounce or an ounce once in three hours. If that is retained we increase gradually. Beef tea is given in case there is no albumen in the urine. We also give them ice-cream, and when they begin to eat they are fed about like typhoids. Every patient must take plenty of water in order to keep the kidneys well flushed. They can have plain ice-water, limeade, Vichy, Apollinaris, almost any mineral water, and ginger ale, the idea being to get them to take as much fluid as possible. When they come in they have a large dose of castor-oil or calomel and jalap, and afterwards an enema daily until the worst of the disease is over.

"During the early stages, when there is much pain, we frequently give five grains of phenacetine; then they have ice-caps to the head, hot-water bags wherever they are wanted, mustard pastes over the epigastrium for nausea, and ice-sponges or ice-water enemata whenever the temperature reaches 103 deg. If the urine is deficient, saline solutions are given per rectum, six ounces every four hours.

"The charting work is enormous, as the most minute thing is recorded. Every ounce of water given must be put down, with the time. Urine is measured and recorded, and a specimen saved daily until convalescence is established. It is examined in the ward, that no mistake may be made, and tubes are labelled, corked, and saved for comparison. Night records are kept in red ink up to seven a.m. All excreta from patients is carried to a crematory, and nothing emptied into the plumbing.

"The hospital is under the control of the Sanitary Department, of which Major Gorgas is the head. We think he is the best man alive. Last year he personally looked after every detail, and we were happy, no matter how hard the work. He was never too busy to attend to the smallest detail, or to try and right everybody's wrongs, and is the most unselfish humanitarian.

"Just now all the yellow fever experts are wild over the mosquito, and expect to carry on their experiments here. None of the *Culex* mosquitoes are found here, so they are imported for experimental work. Our wards are all most carefully screened, as the doctors believe that the disease is propagated by the mosquito.

"We nurses do not fear the disease at all, and believe the risk is no greater than in nursing typhoid. Eight out of our twelve nurses were non-immunes, and most of our help, yet no one contracted it. Every nurse who has the opportunity should do some yellow-fever work, as it is most interesting. A nurse who has had experience can easily diagnose a well-marked case anywhere. The odour alone is diagnostic, though some doctors say they do not notice it."

The Foundling Hospital.

Many people pass constantly by the Foundling Hospital in Guildford Street, W.C., and beyond a glance at the quaint dress of the children, give no thought to the institution which is full of interest and worthy of a visit. It was founded in 1739 by Captain Thomas Coram for "deserted children," but since 1760 it has been used as a home for illegitimate children, whose mothers are known, of these there are in the Hospital about 520, both girls and boys. The girls, in their mob caps, aprons and collars, occupy one side of the gallery at the Sunday service, and the boys the other, and their singing, in which they are assisted by a few professionals, shows their careful training. The organ, which is a fine instrument was the gift of Handel. Over the altar is a picture by West depicting Christ blessing little children.

Visitors should see the children at dinner, the school rooms, dormitories, the Secretary's room and the Board Room, the latter especially is very fine, with a moulded ceiling. It contains some beautiful medallions representing many of the older hospitals, and some valuable pictures, including the "March to Finchley," and the "Finding of Moses," by Hogarth, and some portraits by Ramsay, Reynolds and Shackleton. The Hospital also possesses Raphael's cartoon of the "Massacre of the Innocents." There is an interesting collection of curios and coins sent by former scholars, or given to them during their residence in the school. At the rear of the school, and quite distinct from it, is the Infirmary where any sick children are nursed. There is a trained nurse always in charge, and further assistance is secured when necessary.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Royal Institute of Public Health has, during the past week, held a most successful and interesting Congress at Eastbourne.

The success of the "open-air" treatment at the North London Hospital for Consumption, Mount Vernon, Hampstead, is well known. For some months past the number of applications for admission has greatly exceeded the accommodation at the disposal of the Committee. The lengthened stay in the hospital which the new treatment involves, if anything like permanent benefit is to be expected, has naturally tended to this result. In order that their patients may receive prolonged care and treatment under the most favourable conditions, and with a view of extending the useful work which the hospital is doing, a generous

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