

### Annotations.

#### WOMEN'S WORK IN THE ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

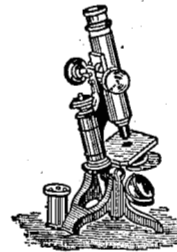
We are informed that forty nurses have sailed for South Africa to work in the Concentration Camps in the Orange River Colony. This step is, we presume, the first fruits of the suggestions made by the Committee of Ladies appointed by the Secretary of State for War to report upon the condition and organization of these camps, and nothing could prove more conclusively the value of utilizing the special work for which women are created, and trained, for the nation's good. It will be remembered that Miss Brereton, formerly a sister at Guy's Hospital, is upon the Committee appointed, so that she had experience which would enable her to advise her colleagues on this point. The Nurses selected for this work are Miss Gill (Matron), Miss A. A. Partridge (Matron), Miss Janet McFarlane Livingston, Miss C. E. Macvicar, Miss Susan McLean McVean, Mrs. Eliza Rintoul, Miss K. G. Jones, Miss I. F. Bain, Mrs. M. E. Lindsay, Miss A. Thompson, Miss Groundwater, Miss H. Batchelow, Miss N. Blew, Miss A. F. A. Brown, Miss E. Clarke, Miss G. E. Custance, Miss G. Cooper, Miss F. C. Davis, Miss E. M. Denne, Miss E. F. Fearis, Miss C. W. Jones, Miss E. E. K. Picard, Miss I. Maxwell, Miss I. May, Mrs. M. Miller, Miss L. J. Mount, Mrs. E. Mumford, Miss F. R. Russell, Miss L. A. Tompkins, Miss A. Warren, Miss MacCowan, Miss J. P. Macintyre, Miss F. M. Golding, Miss E. R. Terry, Miss L. Watchorn, Miss E. T. Kristianson, Miss I. M. Wishart, Miss E. Blanc, Miss J. D. MacGregor, and Miss J. B. Reid.

#### COMMON-SENSE PRECAUTIONS.

It is regrettable that the outbreak of small-pox which has occurred in London continues to spread, but we feel sure we need not advise nurses to maintain that serenity of mind which is so great a safeguard against infection, for nervousness undoubtedly predisposes to the contraction of infectious diseases by persons who come in contact with them. We must further remind our readers that the best antidote to sickness is perfect health. It is the system which is below par which readily succumbs to its assaults. Another point which appears necessary to emphasise is that women should clothe themselves sensibly. Woollen under-clothing, warm stockings, stout boots and shoes and seasonable coats are essential at this time of year.

### Medical Matters.

#### VENTILATION.



Professor A. Wynter-Blyth, medical officer of health for the Borough of Marylebone, presided recently at the annual meeting of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health, held at the Hotel Cecil. He took for his subject "Ventilation," and said that ventilation was not the mere mingling and wafting of aerial mixtures, but the continuous replacement of air. It had come as a revelation and surprise to many that not a drug in the Pharmacopoeia, not an animal extract, not one physical appliance, neither singly nor collectively, was equal in the treatment of tubercle to bathing the lungs and skin in fresh air. The remarkably successful treatment by open air of consumptive maladies must suggest to them that, if air was a curative, it was also a preventative, and that if abundance of pure air could be supplied to each unit of the population the death-roll from phthisis would be so insignificant as to render special sanatoria unnecessary. The problem to be solved was not the changing of air three times an hour in the spacious rooms of the well-to-do and in hospitals, but in the small apartments sanctioned by the Legislature—spaces of 400 and 300, or even of 250 cubic feet—for, obviously, if the problem was solved for the smaller it was also solved for the larger space. There were two distinct advances in the theory and practice of ventilation which had been made recently. The one was the publication, by the Sanitary Institute, of the report of the Cowl Committee, and the other was the wide distribution of electric energy, permitting such mechanical appliances as rotating fans to be utilized by ordinary householders. Wherever there was an electric supply mechanical ventilation was cheap and practicable. He next dealt with local circulation, mechanical ventilation, and ventilation of sewers by means of fans. With regard to the ventilation on the tube and the underground railways, he said that the results of observations taken on both railways showed that so far as respiratory impurity was concerned the tube railway was the better, and the air there was also better than in ordinary places of assembly.

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