

operation but to teach the doctrine that they may take the *place* of operation is most pernicious and mischievous." "Adenoids call for operation whenever they give rise to important symptoms."

The various methods by which the growths may be removed are detailed, preference being shown to the curette operation, the finishing touches being given by means of the finger nail. In describing the position of the patient during the operation usually performed, we notice a mistake, which, from the context, is obviously a slip of the pen, the word "prone" being inserted instead of supine.

The final chapter on "the choice of the Anæsthetic" is by Mr. Bellamy Gardner, and contains much excellent advice on this most important part of the operation for the removal of adenoids.

The work is well printed and illustrated, is carefully indexed, and contains a large number of references to other works on the subject. In conclusion, we congratulate Mr. Yearsley on having added to English medical literature a work which has been sorely needed for some time.

C. R. K.

Preparations, Inventions, etc.

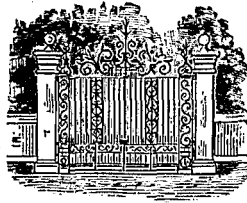
THE HOSPITALS AND GENERAL CONTRACTS COMPANY (LTD.).

The formation of the Hospitals and General Contracts Co. (Ltd.), 33, Mortimer Street, W., is an excellent idea, and is certainly calculated to meet a want which has hitherto not been considered. To busy hospital officials the saving of time is of importance, and this the Directors realised in forming a Company to supply hospitals and kindred institutions with all goods required for their equipment and maintenance, other than food. A novel feature also is, that it is proposed to apply the principle of co-operation in the business, and, after paying 6 per cent. on the capital of the Company all nett profits will be distributed in equal proportions between the shareholders, on the one hand, and the customers according to the business done, on the other. The chairman of the Company is Mr. Frank Debenham.

Having stated that every hospital requisite is supplied, enumeration of particular articles becomes difficult. A variety of hospital bedsteads is on view, and the bedding appears to be of excellent quality, while the prices compare favourably with those usually asked. We may draw attention to a new mattress which contains encased copper springs, upholstered with horse-hair, and which is so ventilated that a free circulation of air is secured. The firm issue a price list for which we should advise Matrons and Secretaries of hospitals to write.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



Wide spread sympathy is felt, and expressed with the Dutch nation in its anxiety as to the issue of the illness which has befallen its Queen, and many are the hopes that Queen Wilhelmina may long be spared to her devoted people.

The Drapers' Company have decided to make a donation of £30,000 to the New University of London. In this connection it is hopeful to hear of co-operation between the City companies and the Technical Education Board of the London County Council, and as, incredible as it may seem, the Council's money cannot be expended in providing apprenticeships for girls, the funds of the City companies can be legitimately spent in this manner—it is time girls were given equal chances with boys by public bodies.

Some unusually interesting scientific results, it is said, may be expected from the exploration of the caves of Cyprus which has been undertaken by Miss Bates, a lady well known in the Natural History Department at South Kensington. She has (according to the London correspondent of the *Scotsman*), already made discoveries of fossil remains of animals of species quite new to science; among others, several bones which have been identified by the experts of the Department as belonging to a pigmy hippopotamus, much smaller than the smallest known species. Encouraged by the results attained, the lady explorer has decided to continue her task in Cyprus for some time longer under the auspices of the Royal Society, the Government Grant Committee having made a small grant in aid of her explorations.

"The Moors," by Mr. Budgett Meakin, is a book worth reading. Religious, sensuous, courteous, the Moor is at once civilised and grossly ignorant. In medical matters he depends (as did Englishmen at one time) on the barber—or the foreigner: and in this respect the lady missionary has proved invaluable. In view of the prevalence of smallpox just now the following story is apropos:—"Almost every spring there is an epidemic, more or less pronounced, of smallpox, and the number of pitted faces is very large. Mothers are anxious that their children should pass through the ordeal early, and with this end in view place them in the way of contagion. I knew one poor woman who had a pet son of perhaps eight or ten. One day she came like Rachel, sorrowing and not to be comforted for his loss. 'O God!' she cried, 'What can I do? God knows it was not my fault that my boy did not take the disease in time: for three successive years I borrowed the blankets in which others had died of the smallpox, directly they were buried, and it was only this year he took it. Now he is gone, and I am left alone! Help me, O God, help me!'"

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