

of year is the close season, as the young birds, newly hatched, are absolutely dependent on their parents, and that for every bird killed many more are left to die of starvation. Oh, Charity, what cruelties are perpetrated in thy name!

The East End Mothers' Home is a charity which must always appeal to the benevolent, holding out as it does to married women resident in the crowded districts around the Commercial Road a haven of refuge during their hour of need. It also acts as a training-school for midwives and nurses in this special branch of work, both in the Home and in the houses of the poor. With the assistance of the King's Hospital Fund the Committee has been able to provide a separate labour ward on each floor, and also to rebuild a spur to one of the houses, in which are fitted up a patients' bathroom and lavatory and a small emergency ward. In spite of these additions, however, Miss Blomfield, the Lady Superintendent is pleading for more accommodation, and pointing out the dangers of overcrowding.

In regard to the training of pupils Miss Blomfield says:—

"Twenty have been trained in Midwifery, and the majority passed the L.O.S. examination, and twenty-eight for Maternity work; most of the latter are sent by various Nursing Societies, by the District Cottage Nursing Associations, &c. The extension of the time for training from six to eight weeks will, I hope, raise the standard of the nursing, and, although this means that fewer pupils can be trained, the advantages to the 'Home,' as well as to the nurses themselves, will be very great. Eventually, I hope we shall be able to make the time of training even longer. We had 320 applications for vacancies during the year."

Surely eight weeks is all too short a time for training pupils of Cottage Nursing Associations. Three months is fully short for teaching a trained nurse all there is to learn in this special branch, and in eight weeks women of the "Cottage Nursing" type—who are, as a rule, not only untrained but uneducated—can only get the veriest smattering of learning.

"A Nurse Interested in Industrial Problems" has invited our readers to name the best dozen books from which she may study industrial conditions, realising very truly that in her relation to the community at large it is her duty to acquaint herself with reliable information on the subject.

We beg to recommend the following standard works:—

"The Social Unrest," by John Graham Banks.

"Democracy and Social Ethics," by Jane Addams.

"The Higher Life of Working People," by W. Walker Stephens.

"Problems of Modern Industry," by Sidney and Beatrice Webb.

"Economics," by Arthur Twining Hadley.

"The Distribution of Wealth," by John Bates Clark.

"Evolution of Modern Capitalism," by John A. Hobson.

"The Woman who Toils," by Marie Van Vorst.

"Henry Worthington, Idealist," by Margaret Sherwood.

"Women and Economics," by Charlotte Perkins Stetson.

"Religion, a Vital Factor in Industrial Problems," by Mrs. Frederick Nathan.

Perhaps some of our readers will add to this list other books of reference; there are many valuable works. We should like to have district nurses more deeply interested in industrial problems.

The Bristol Board of Guardians have decided, as an experiment, to give the nurses in their infirmary three weeks' holiday instead of a fortnight. It is an experiment which we hope will become a permanency, for certainly all women engaged in nursing the sick should be free from this strain for three short weeks in the fifty-two if they are to keep their health and perform their work efficiently.

No class of the community are more to be commiserated than invalid ladies of straitened means, and the provision for lightening the burden of life to them is small. We therefore welcome the announcement that a new Home for such ladies has been opened in Kirkstall Lane, Headingley, Leeds. The trust deeds of the Home have been presented to trustees, to be held by them in perpetuity, by Miss Brown, of Bardon Grange, Westwood, in memory of her parents. In making the presentation the donor said it was to be a Home for invalided gentlewomen disabled for the duties of life by disease, accident, or deformity, without regard to their religious denomination. She desired to emphasise the fact that the Home was founded and presented in memory of her father and mother, William and Eliza Brown, of whose simple virtues their descendants might be justly proud; and remembering their intense loyalty and admiration for the noble character of the late Queen, she named the institution the Victoria Home.

Lady Frederick Cavendish, who performed the opening ceremony, said she thought on accepting the invitation that her duty was simply that of "turning a key," and now she found she had to make a speech. The Home was admirably adapted to its very beautiful and Christian purpose. Each room was cheerful and home-like. Nearly all present must at times have come across darkly pathetic and tragic cases of suffering among those who had known better days,

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