

wives. The book is much enlarged, so much so that its range cannot be covered in practice in the present six-months' course, and it therefore seems likely that the Government will increase the course of study to nine months. While it is supposed that the longer preparation and increased cost may temporarily diminish the number of pupil midwives, yet it is believed that the better education will soon attract a better class of women, and in sufficient numbers. The demand for a better education has come in part from the midwives, but has been guided and supported by the Government. The status of the midwife has already risen in public estimation as a result of the present requirements of the law for moral qualifications. The improved education is expected to do much more, and finally some further securities for the financial side are to be worked out. In Saxony, at present, the whole kingdom is divided into districts, with one midwife for each district. This is to secure the midwife a certain livelihood. If a patient calls a midwife from another district when there is no emergency, she has to pay certain compensatory costs.

It is with pleasure we announce that the German Nurses' Association expects to publish its own Journal next October. The current expenses of printing, &c., are assured by the Association, and the main part of the editorial work has been assumed by two members, who have volunteered their services without remuneration. Frau Capitän Schroeder, formerly Sister Balan, will undertake the German material, while Frau Praetorius, who in every way possible continues to assist the Organisation with friendly services, will translate material from the English. Sister Karll and the officers of the Association will manage the Journal as one of the business interests of the organised nurses, and it will be devoted to the propaganda of higher educational standards, just economic conditions, the development of the principle of self-government, sound ethics, and all of the practical and personal interests of the members.

The Governor of Maryland has appointed Miss G. C. Ross, of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, as Inspector of Training-Schools. Miss Ross has made her first round of inspection of the training-schools in the State.

### The Entente Cordiale.

The President of the French Republic has conferred (on April 24th) the bronze medal of the *Assistance Publique* on Miss Catherine Elston, Directress of the Tondu Civil Hospital and Nursing School of Bordeaux. M. Loubet shook hands twice with Miss Elston, thanking her warmly for her *dévouement*, and congratulating her on the success of the School.

## Reflections.

### FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Council of the Hospital Saturday Fund, in their thirty-first annual report, just issued, have the gratifying announcement to make that last year's collection was a record one in the history of the Fund. The total income was £24,344, an increase of £670 over that of the previous year. The board of delegates has distributed the sum of £22,196 amongst 198 institutions. The Council state that they are glad to note that the work of the National Committee for the Establishment of Sanatoria for the Workers Suffering from Tuberculosis, which was inaugurated by the Fund, is making satisfactory progress. The Committee have decided to purchase a site of 250 acres at Benenden, in Kent, and it is hoped that in the near future a sanatorium to accommodate 200 patients will be established. The Board unanimously decided to contribute £500 towards the building fund, and to secure fifteen beds in the institution for the use of its supporters.

The Baly medal, instituted in 1866 by Dr. F. D. Dyster, of Tenby, in memoriam Gulielmi Baly, M.D., which is awarded every alternate year on the recommendation of the President and Council of the Royal College of Physicians to the person who shall be deemed to have distinguished himself in the science of physiology, especially during the two years immediately preceding the award, was awarded to Professor Pawlow, of St. Petersburg, as having pre-eminently distinguished himself in the science of physiology.

A Lunacy Acts Amendment Bill has been introduced into the House of Commons by Sir John Batty Tuke. Its object is to enable the London County Council to establish houses for the preliminary examination and treatment of lunatics, and by such treatment in the early and incipient stages of mental disease to obviate the necessity for sending to a county lunatic asylum persons who under the present arrangements cannot be otherwise dealt with.

The annual dinner of the Royal Sanitary Institute will be held in the Prince's Restaurant on Friday, May 12th, at 7 p.m., the Duke of Northumberland, President of the Institute, being in the chair. All applications for tickets should be made to Mr. E. White Wallis, secretary, at 72, Margaret Street, London, W.

Last year the Samaritan Fund at St. Bartholomew's Hospital dealt with 1,372 cases, of whom 915 were men and 457 women. Since the fund was founded in 1835, 53,560 cases—32,227 men and 21,333 women—have been relieved. Many are the instances of the benefits resulting from this charity. Patients are frequently under the necessity of selling or pledging their clothing and tools, or have unavoidably contracted debts to support themselves in the season of sickness. Such, without the assistance of the fund, often find, when discharged from hospital, the greatest difficulty in

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