

The Irish Nurses' Association.

The Irish Nurses' Association are organising the winter course of lectures, which in previous years have proved so popular and instructive. The following lectures will be held at the office of the Association in Dublin on Friday in this week Dr. Wheeler speaks on "The Functions of the Brain and Spinal Cord." On November 17th Mr. R. White will lecture on "With a Camera through Russia," and on December 4th Dr. McWeeney takes "Tuberculosis: the great White Plague."

Phthisis carries off thousands in the Emerald Isle, and the Irish Nurses' Association will no doubt throw all its energies into helping to stay its ravages. Nurses who are in and out of the homes of the poor have immense opportunities of teaching them habits of hygiene, which are the best preventives of disease.

The Badge of the Association can be obtained from the Secretary, Miss M. E. MacDonnell, price 3s.

Little Jim.

The hot summer's day drew to a close, and the weary probationer, preparing to leave the ward, was taking a last look round. Suddenly there was a cry from the corner "cot." "Give me a drink nurse please." "Why are you not asleep, Jim? This is no time for drinks," and nurse turned to go. At the door she met the night nurse, with whom she passed a word. Outside, well, Sister gave her a commission, and in some way—though she really had intended to fetch that drink—"16" was forgotten. Next morning nurse walked into the bright sunny ward. Her night's rest had blown the cobwebs away and she walked gaily up to Jim's cot. Alas! she found it empty.

"Where is Jim, Sister?" "He died early this morning," was the reply.

Poor nurse! She has never forgotten it; all that day the pitiful unanswered cry rang in her ears and almost drove her mad.

Twenty summers the daisies have bloomed on little Jim's pauper grave, and to-day in a large hospital ward is a sweet-faced Sister who thoughtfully and kindly attends to each little sufferer, and should you ask her how she keeps patient and is ever willing to help, though so often tired and weary, she will repeat—not even yet without a catch in her breath—what she ever considers the great blot in her nursing life, the story of little Jim.

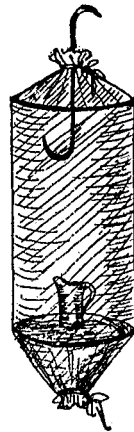
FRANCES L. J. BENNETT.

Practical Points.

Water in the Ear. If water gets into the ear when one is bathing it sometimes causes a feeling of deafness and discomfort and is hard to remove. Five or ten drops of alcohol may be put into the ear, allowed to remain a moment, and then gently wiped out. Relief will be instantaneous, as alcohol has a great affinity for water.

A Cottage Meat Safe.

The accompanying illustration represents a practical meat and food safe, shown by a technical school teacher, and described in the *Queen's Nurses' Magazine*, by the courtesy of which we are permitted to publish it.



A square of muslin is taken about 1 yard by $\frac{3}{4}$ yard, and the two long sides are stitched together making a sort of trouser leg, so to speak. A ring of hat wire is sewn in at the top and at the bottom about 7 inches from the edges. Tapes are then run through the muslin below the wires so that the ends can be drawn open or shut at will.

A meat hook, which can be bought for 2d. at any ironmonger's, is inserted into the opening at the top, and the safe is complete. A plate can be put in the bottom of the safe and stands so securely on the wire ring that a milk jug can be put upon it. No flies or dust can get into it, and the whole thing costs about 6d. to make.

Infantile Diarrhoea.

There is no greater scourge among infants, writes "Bumble," than the deadly disease known as "Summer diarrhoea." It is said that "97 per cent. of deaths occur in bottle-fed babies," showing that if the infection is not primarily due to milk it is much aggravated by it when impure. Even mild cases are sure to be wrongly treated to start with, as even where there is sickness as well as diarrhoea no change of diet is made. In a hospital, or even in a town where the doctor may be had at a moment's notice, neighbours are many and willing to help, and shops are at hand, difficulties and dangers are minimised. But in the country where the doctor lives three or four miles away, where the messenger must go on foot to find him and may then arrive only to hear "the doctor has been called out"—gone, perhaps, an equal distance in the opposite direction—a case assumes much more alarming proportions.

It is under these circumstances if a nurse is within reach, that her knowledge of practical nursing will be called forth. She is told that "yesterday baby had a little diarrhoea, but was not bad enough to send for the doctor." To-day, however, she finds a case in which all the symptoms of a severe attack are present—marked pallor, dark lines beneath the eyes,

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