

reception. Then someone mentions the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING—Open Sesame! Our kind hostess turns out to be an old correspondent, herself at one time the editor of *Tidsskrift For Sygepleje*, the official organ of the Danish Nurses' Association. We at once get into our stride, and talk nursing for the next two hours.

The Frederiks Hospital is structurally out of date; and a new hospital now in course of construction on an open space, is soon to replace it. But this old building is most picturesque, erected round a large centre garden where trees flourish and where we found roses and other sweet flowers in full bloom. We saw many convalescent patients of both sexes enjoying the companionship of friends, sitting under the trees and strolling up and down the flowery lawns. To English eyes the regulation costumes worn by the patients appeared somewhat strange; the women were all attired in pink striped cotton skirts and jackets, the men in blue and white trousers and coats.

The wards we found rather primitive in construction, but most comfortable and clean, and all the nurses appeared very bright and busy. Their uniform—with the somewhat short sleeves, and no cuffs, and ample aprons—was eminently practical, if not quite so becoming as those worn by hospital nurses in England.

We were shown and were greatly impressed by the orderly perfection of the Surgical Store room. Asepsis in surgical work was evidently carried out with exquisite precision. Here, kept in airtight tins and glass jars, were arranged piles and piles of sterilised dressings of every description, including bandages of all sizes, wee eye dressings and finger bandages, operating sheets, and blankets, and every separate dressing and bandage was securely enclosed in two layers of white Japanese paper, folded with extreme neatness and ready for use. Imagine the work!

The Frederiks Hospital is under the management, like so many continental hospitals, of a Medical Director. Four Supervising Sisters—departmental superintendents—work under him, each having an important charge; the Maternity Hospital is quite an important annexe. There is no Nursing School on the English system attached to this large hospital; but the practical teaching and work is good, and appears very faithfully done. Danish women combine great charm of manner with sound, practical good sense, and thus provide first-class material for nurse making.

But evolution is inevitable. All classes in Denmark are so thoroughly well-educated, that it is only a matter of time when nursing standards must be defined. The nurses have their National Council, with its central bureau, and official organ and the wheels of the gods—but more anon. E. G. F.

We are glad to announce that the course of lectures on Anatomy and Physiology, as Applied to Practical Nursing, by Dr. Bedford Fenwick, which begins in our issue this week, will be continued at fortnightly intervals. The power to connect theoretical teaching with the practical needs of nurses is a somewhat rare art, and we feel sure this course of lectures will be welcomed by many of our readers.

Professional Review.

MIDWIFERY FOR NURSES.

We have received from Messrs. Edward Arnold of 41 and 43, Maddox Street, Bond Street, W., "Midwifery for Nurses" (price 4/6), by Dr. H. Russell Andrews, Assistant Obstetric Physician to the London Hospital, and Examiner to the Central Midwives' Board. The book is dedicated to the Pupil-Midwives at the London Hospital to whom Dr. Russell Andrews is Lecturer, and to whom the lectures contained in it were originally delivered, and in his preface the author expresses his thanks to Miss E. M. Sleight, Sister of the lying-in wards at the London, for her assistance in regard to nursing details.

The book is clearly arranged, the object of the author being to make the book as practical as possible, and we think it is written in a way which presents the whole range of knowledge necessary for a midwife in a way which is easily grasped.

ABDOMINAL EXAMINATION.

Midwives who received their training some time ago, when abdominal examination was little taught or practised, will study with interest the remarks on abdominal examination, in which this important method, which the author states should always precede vaginal examination is clearly described.

ASEPSIS OF THE HANDS.

In regard to that most important duty of all engaged in midwifery, the care of the hands, we are told "efficient asepsis of the hands can be obtained by the use of lysol (half a drachm to the pint) followed by perchloride of mercury. If the hands become sore or rough they must be thoroughly smeared with some greasy hand lotion or emollient cream at night, and at the end of every midwifery case or visit during which they have been made aseptic. It is a good plan to wear cotton gloves at night, put on after the hands have been well smeared with some emollient ointment.

MANAGEMENT OF LABOUR.

The management of labour is described in detail, and nurses who intelligently study this chapter should have a clear grasp of the subject.

Of the accidents of labour and the complications of the puerperium the author writes in detail, and puerperal sepsis, a condition happily not often seen by the modern well trained midwife, with its causes, and effects is clearly dealt with, precipitate and prolonged labour, and the various hæmorrhages with the duties of the nurse in each case are also minutely described, as are also albuminuria and eclampsia.

THE INFANT.

One chapter is devoted to the infant, another to its diseases, and a third to its feeding. The book closes with a chapter dealing with the rules of the Central Midwives' Board.

Not only those who are preparing for the examination of the Central Midwives' Board but also midwives in practice will find this book helpful to them in their work.

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