

tirely in the Association's interests. It has, therefore, been decided to open a Fund through which a part at least, of the expenses of the Association's representative can be met. We ask each member to contribute the sum of one shilling towards this Fund. This is not a heavy subscription to the individual, but, if each member subscribes, the sum realised will be ample to meet the cost of having the Association adequately represented at this great International Congress of Nurses from every quarter of the globe.

#### SOCIAL PATHOLOGY.

An extremely valuable pamphlet on Social Pathology, not only of national but of international importance, by Assistant-Surgeon-General Mark L. White, Chief, Division of Venereal Diseases, has been issued by the Treasury Department, United States Public Health Service, 16, Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. The writer states:—

##### THE PURPOSE OF SOCIAL PATHOLOGY.

The purpose of "Social Pathology" is to acquaint the laity and civic organisations with those socio-economic conditions that have definite influence in the spread of venereal diseases, and, by reading the articles it contains at a club or staff meeting, to stimulate consideration of such problems in the community. In this way similar conditions will become more fully understood, and use of the knowledge thus gained will result in more effective co-operation with the Health Department in its programme of venereal disease control for the protection of the Child, the Family, and the State.

##### NURSING IN ITS RELATION TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

Of special interest to the readers of this JOURNAL is the paper by Miss Lucy Minnigerode, Superintendent of Nurses, United States Public Health Service. The writer says that the growth of Public Health Nursing since 1905 has been almost unprecedented. The demand for public health nurses has increased, specialisation of nursing in certain forms has become an accepted fact, and at the present time post-graduate courses in public health nursing can be taken in many of the large universities, and in practically all the well-known Visiting Nurse Associations.

Miss Minnigerode describes the evolution of the Visiting Nurse Association into the Instructive Visiting Nurse Association. The nurse first employed for the purpose of giving visiting care, or bedside nursing, to the sick poor in their homes found in these homes many matters needing adjustment—poverty, destitution, ill-health of other members of the family, under-nourishment, ignorance of hygiene, sanitation, proper preparation of food. If the patient in whom her full interest lay was to receive the full benefit of her care, those conditions in the home which caused anxiety and distress must be adjusted. It therefore became one of her duties to seek co-operation with existing relief agencies, first to relieve immediate necessities, and to aid in establishing the family on a self-supporting basis. It was equally important for her to instruct some member of the family in the care of the patient during her absence, and in the proper preparation of food. So, through many channels, grew and developed the Instructive Visiting Nurse Association; from the first giving of bedside care, and from being known as the Visiting Nurse Associations and Visiting Nurses, the organisations were changed to Instructive Visiting Nurse Associations, and the nurse became the "Public Health Nurse."

The writer divides Public Health Nursing into *Generalised Nursing* and *Specialised Nursing*.

The specialised nurse is one who has made a special study of some particular phase of public health work. School nursing, child or infant welfare, with its allied branches, tuberculosis and mental hygiene, venereal disease and social service—all interdependent, and yet independent—are some

of the branches of specialised nursing usually found in the larger cities and more popular and wealthy communities.

Many qualities are requisite in the Public Health Nurse—"a broad fundamental general education on which foundation her nursing education is built. She must have the necessary post-graduate training and experience. She must have tact and sympathy, so that she will know instinctively the best method of approach to her patient and his family. She must be both flexible and adaptable—flexible so that she will know that there is no single road, but many ways, by which a desired end can be attained, so that she can work with the material at hand, under conditions as they exist, without friction and without making extensive demands which may limit her ultimate success. . . . The public health nurse in any program makes the first contact, and through the whole program she continues to be the liaison officer between the people themselves, the individuals, and the organisation. Unless she has the above-mentioned and other characteristics, she cannot expect to be successful in making these human contacts."

#### CLUB FIXTURES.

We draw the members' attention to the Club Calendar on Page i of the Advertisement Supplement under Official Announcements. Last month we got up a more or less impromptu dance, which proved to be one of the most enjoyable of those we have had yet. No more delightful floor for dancers could be found than that in the large, double drawing-room at the club and, as quite a number of gentlemen came from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, the nurses had partners who were splendid dancers. The members decided that they would like to have such a dance each month, and we have, therefore, fixed upon the second Saturday of every month at eight o'clock. Nurses who wish to attend should give the Secretary notice beforehand as we like to be sure of having an equal number of ladies and gentlemen on these occasions. In the same week we are to have a lecture on the Nursing of Acute Abdominal Conditions, by Mr. Carson, F.R.C.S., and this should be a splendid opportunity for private nurses and others to brush up their surgery and to put to him any knotty questions that may puzzle them in connection with the latest surgical developments.

The Whist Drive is to be held in aid of a Fund for having the Club re-decorated, and on Saturday, February 28th, we shall have a delightful lecture, with lantern slides, from Mr. Eeles, who is one of the greatest living authorities on "Ancient Churches and their Artistic Treasures."

#### DONATIONS.

*Club.*—Miss Jones and Keith, £2; Miss Tait, 10s.; Miss Macdonald, 7s. 6d.; Miss E. W. Hilton, 5 dollars.

*General Purposes Fund.*—Miss A. F. Rockett, £2 10s.; Miss A. Jordan, £2; Miss A. Dorrell, 14s.; Miss E. E. Jarvis, 10s. 6d.; Misses C. M. Alderman, E. Sawers, N. Shepherd, 10s.; Mrs. E. Wates, 9s. 6d.; Miss J. Macleod Orr, 8s.; Miss Bedwell, 5s.; Miss M. Erskine, 5s.; Misses M. Hart, N. Smith, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Sherliker, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Welch, 1s. 6d.; Miss E. Spearing, 1s.

*Helena Benevolent Fund.*—Miss M. C. Good, £2 10s.; Miss A. Rockett, £2 10s.; Miss P. F. Watt, £1 1s.; Miss L. Mather, 10s. 6d.; Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Bayliss, 10s.; Misses Cattell, E. Marsland, M. L. Wright, 10s.; Misses Anderson, Ellis, Soutar and Wise, 5s.; Miss Chesswas, 4s.; Miss T. Terry, Miss F. Torn, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Bates, 2s. 6d.; Misses Cursiter, C. Fisher, J. Macleod Orr, Richards, Whitford, 2s.; Mrs. Linton, 2s.; Misses Barling, Morton, F. Wilson, 1s. 6d.; Misses Fenner, Pocock, Rodwell, Wade, I. Wilson, E. Williams, 1s.; Mrs. Welch and Mrs. Upton, 1s.

*Settlement Fund.*—Miss Flint, £1 1s.

ISABEL MACDONALD,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

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