

down about 961. Rebuilt, it was again destroyed in 1086. Probably the cathedral remained in ruins, or at least in a ruinous state, for a very long time, as the next building was not completed until about 1315. This, the tallest in Europe, was constructed of timber covered with lead, and soared into the air 520 feet.

During a long period old St. Paul's was put to uses not at all in accordance with its sacred character. Porters, and even pack animals, made use of it as a thoroughfare. Beggars solicited alms, and lawyers solicited clients, tradesmen occupied the chapels; one vault was occupied by a carpenter, another by a wine seller. A baker's oven was built against a buttress; noisy children used the great church as a playground, drowning the preacher's voices. In 1630 Inigo Jones was entrusted with its repair, but the Civil War intervened before the work was completed.

In 1666 the Great Fire destroyed Old St. Paul's, and with it 396 acres of houses, 400 streets, 88 other churches and four of the old city gates.

Wren commenced the present St. Paul's in 1675; for 36 years the work went on until its completion in 1711.

To the top of the cross is 365 feet, the length of the cathedral is 500 feet, and the width of the transepts 150 feet.

At the conclusion of this entrancing lecture the President, Miss Dorothy de M. Warren, paid high tribute to the genius of Mr. W. L. Bryant Peers for taking us on this most fascinating journey through Old London, which was greeted with great acclamation.

## Book Reviews.

### Warwick & Tunstall's First Aid to the Injured and Sick.\*

Edited by A. P. Gorham.

THIS IS AN excellent handbook on first aid written for members of St. John's Ambulance Brigade, the Red Cross and other First Aid Units. It is a well planned little book, well illustrated. The first section gives elementary anatomy clearly explained and with good diagrams.

Part two introduces the first aid section. Here again there are good illustrations. The various subjects are dealt with in order ending with the problems of transport on land, sea and air. I so often feel that when and how to move a sick or injured person is of the utmost importance.

This little book should have a wide circulation.

\* John Wright & Sons Ltd., Bristol 8. Price 6s. 6d., postage 4d.

### Handbook of Chest Surgery for Nurses.\*

By J. Leigh Collis, M.D., B.Sc., F.R.C.S. in collaboration with L. E. Mabbit, S.R.N.

THIS IS THE third edition of this useful textbook. Chest surgery is a subject requiring specialised knowledge. Here is a book brought up to date on all aspects of the subject, written for the nurse who wishes to specialise. In each chapter the nursing techniques are included with the explanations of the various diseases and their treatments. The book is well illustrated with diagrams and drawings of instruments and apparatus used.

The X-ray supplement at the back, each picture with its explanatory diagram, should be of great value to those nurses who have difficulty in understanding X-ray plates.

I suggest that this book is one that should be included in the nurses' reference library

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\* Bailliere, Tindall & Cox, 7 & 8, Henrietta Street, London, W.C.2. Price 12s. 6d. net.

## Stepney Group Hospital Management Committee Dance.

THE ANNUAL FANCY DRESS PARTY by the Stepney Group Hospital Management Committee to their Medical, Nursing and Administrative Staff in appreciation of the work done during the year, was held at St. George in-the-East Hospital on Thursday, May 22nd, 1952.

Sidney Lipton and his Ballroom Orchestra and the West End Floorshow, "Mayfair, Manhattan and Montmartre" by Gordon Marsh and Company, contributed greatly to the enormous success of the evening.

The hall was gaily decorated with flowers and balloons. The dance was well attended by Staff from the other hospitals in the Group, many of whom were in Fancy Dress.

The Fancy Dress Parade showed great ingenuity in the skill with which the costumes were contrived.

Desmond Walter-Ellis who is at present starring in "Penny Plain" came straight from St. Martin's Theatre after the evening performance to judge the Fancy Dresses and to present the Prizes.

On arrival, the guests were welcomed by Mrs. Hastings, Chairman, and Major Green, Vice-Chairman, and Miss R. E. Finch, Matron of St. George's. During the evening a bouquet was presented to Mrs. Hastings by Nursing Cadet, Miss Iris Halls.

All the Staff very greatly appreciated the generosity of the Management Committee for giving them such a wonderful evening.

Appreciation is also extended to all those at St. George in-the-East Hospital for the organisation and catering arrangements.

### Prizes for Fancy Dresses.

#### Best Pair—

1st. *The Gay 90s*. Sister G. Cogan and Sister M. Feeley, St. George in-the-East Hospital.

2nd. *The Fashionable 20s*. Dr. Depla and Miss M. Yvetta.

#### Best Dressed Lady—

1st. *Minnie from Trinidad*. Sister Barr, St. George in-the-East Hospital.

2nd. *Spiv*. Student M. Reilly, St. George in-the-East Hospital.

#### Best Dressed Gent—

1st. *Chinaman*. Major Green, Vice-Chairman.

2nd. *Spiv*. Student E. Lahiff, St. George in-the-East Hospital.

#### Original—

*Scarecrow*. Sister MacAskill, St. George in-the-East Hospital.

#### Prettiest—

*Hungarian Lady*. Staff Nurse M. Hughes, St. George in-the-East Hospital.

#### Funniest—

*Absent Minded Professor*. Male Student Stone, St. George in-the-East Hospital.

## Beechgrove Home for the Aged Sick.

111, Sydenham Hill, S.E.26.

THE ABOVE HOME was opened by the Countess of Limerick on Tuesday, June 17th.

The Home has been bought and equipped by the King Edward's Hospital Fund for London but it is staffed and run by the County of London Branch of the British Red Cross Society. The purpose of the Home is to take aged sick from hospitals linked with the Camberwell Hospital Management Group of the South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board when these patients no longer need full hospital treatment and are ambulatory, but cannot return to independent life because they need medical or nursing care.

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