

It appears that a false report has been circulated that Ladbroke House, the central Home of the Holy Cross Society of Trained Nurses, has been closed. The House is by no means closed; and the Nursing Staff is hard at work. This Catholic Society of Nurses, we are glad to learn, sends out no Nurses who have not had a proper hospital training. Besides District Nurses who attend the poor gratuitously, it has two maternity branches, one in Fulham and one in Kensington. At the central Home, Ladbroke House, in-patients are received and attended by the Institution doctor, or can be visited by their own medical man.

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THE Ipswich Nurses' Home has just issued its Twentieth Annual Report. During the year 200 cases of Scarlet Fever in Ipswich and the neighbourhood have been nursed in their own homes, and occasionally partly fed. The Nursing in country villages increases steadily; and Nurses have been sent to 48 villages. The Committee would like to have a larger balance in hand, as the work done by the Institution has not only increased, but the expenses have risen since it has been found necessary to raise the salaries of all classes of Nurses.

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A WELL-ATTENDED and animated Meeting of subscribers to the Chelsea Hospital for Women was held on Wednesday last. Sir ALGERNON BORTHWICK explained the position of affairs. Lord CADOGAN declined to withdraw his resignation of the Presidency of the Hospital. A new Board of Management was elected *en bloc*, despite a strongly-expressed feeling on the part of a number of those present that each name should be submitted separately to the meeting. Seven old members of the Board, and thirteen new, were elected. The Medical Staff then, through their senior physician, made three suggestions:—(1) That the election of the present staff should not be confirmed, in other words that their resignations should be accepted; (2) that in advertising for candidates for the vacant offices it should be distinctly stated what were the necessary qualifications, and what were the disqualifications; and (3) that the new Board of Management should seek for professional advice and assistance from well-known London surgeons and physicians in selecting the new Staff. We are glad to observe that the advice which we have from the first given, that the old Board and the recently-elected Staff should both resign, and that a fresh start should be made, has been followed. We fear, however, that it will prove that the public confidence in this Institution has been very gravely, if not permanently, shaken, and that it will have to face a considerable loss, next year, in the amount of its annual subscriptions and donations; while it is well known that the Hospital Sunday Fund have this year given no grant at all to the Institution—a fact which, we believe, is without precedent.

## The National Health Society.

53, BERNERS STREET, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.



THE following report of a series of Free Talks has been received from the Hon. Secretary of the district:—“A delightful series of ‘Homely Talks’ has lately been given by Miss Alice Ravenhill, lecturer of the National Health Society at St. Peter’s Schools, Saffron Hill. The room was crowded every evening with an enthusiastic audience of working men and women, including a number of factory girls. The rector, the Rev. E. Canney, presided. The subject of the lectures was ‘How to maintain Health and prevent Diseases.’ The people were thoroughly interested, and it was only necessary to watch them for a few minutes to see how completely Miss Ravenhill had secured their attention. It is impossible to value these free lectures too highly, especially in a crowded factory neighbourhood like Saffron Hill, where it would be impossible for the majority of those who attended the lectures to pay for them, and who could not, therefore, obtain the simple practical information they so greatly need without the help of the National Health Society.

Three Lectures on “Sick Cookery” are to be given by Miss Hilditch, at the Lecture Room of the Society (53, Berners Street), on Saturdays, December 1st, 8th and 16th, at 11.30. The lectures are chiefly intended for the benefit of the Society’s lecturers, as it is felt that the subject of cookery for invalids is of immense importance, and one with which it is difficult to deal in sufficient fulness at ordinary Nursing lectures, coming as it does outside the radius of Sick Nursing in its proper sense. The Society’s lecturers are called upon to teach those who in most cases will have to do not only the actual Nursing, but also the cooking for their patients, and it is for this reason that those who have to teach these people should themselves have every opportunity of studying even the minor details connected with Nursing.

It is with great satisfaction that the Society has heard of the success with which Dr. Schofield has met in presenting his petition for the recognition of Hygiene as an optional subject, in the Oxford Local Examinations, before the authorities at Oxford. By this means it will become more practicable to give “Hygiene” its full importance as an integral part of the education of every girl. In these days of public examinations, subjects which have no place in the most important Examinations do not gain much attention in education, even though of immense importance, and it is for this reason that the recognition of “Hygiene” as a subject, to be included in their Examination syllabus by the Oxford authorities, is felt to be such an advantageous step.

Courses of lectures on “Nursing and First Aid,” are now in progress at 53, Berners Street, on Fridays and Tuesdays respectively, the lecturer on Friday being Miss de Pledge, and on Tuesday, Owen Lankester, Esq. Both courses form part of the Special Training course for Teachers, though many other ladies besides the Training Students are availing themselves of the opportunity offered by these admirable lectures.

It should be of great encouragement to all teachers of First Aid, and any who are connected with the arrangement of these lectures in country districts, to hear how a child’s life has recently been saved owing to the mother having attended “Homely Talks on First Aid.” The following incident occurred in a village in Shropshire last week:—A small child, whilst playing about outside the door of his father’s farm, fell head foremost into a large milk tub which had been filled with water and left standing in the yard. The mother coming out of the house, a few seconds after, found the child with its head under the water and legs in the air. She

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