

MISS SOPHIA PALMER, speaking editorially in the *Trained Nurse* for this month on "Organization and how to go about it," says:—

"We believe that while Nurses must always maintain that perfect subordination to the physician, to the hospital, and to the training school, when officially connected with either, they must learn to stand alone in their business relations, govern their own societies, and assume control of such matters as are strictly within the province of the Nursing profession."

And again:—

"We need Nurses also in the lecture field, not to discourse upon methods of Nursing and treatment, but to rouse in the individual members of the profession a realizing sense of their obligations to 'posterity.' It is perhaps only natural, considering the conditions under which the profession has developed, that we have, up to the present time, given very little thought to 'those who are to come after,' but we are now strong enough in numbers and intelligence to work upon a broader platform. We find too many Nurses who think of their profession only as a means by which they are enabled to command 25 dols. per week. That Nurses have a right to charge all that they can get we do not question, but where money is the only motive, we may expect little moral or intellectual development. Many of the superintendents are making great efforts to counteract this mercenary spirit with their Nurses in training, but they need help from the outside army, and the subject is one for serious thought. Some of our bright women, who are no longer in active work, might give an immense assistance in this direction."

How many times have we also preached a little sermon on the *duty of public service*?

OVERHEARD in the underground railway.

"Ain't your baby tongue-tied?" said a mild looking woman in a third class carriage.

"Indeed he ain't—and you might mind your own business," snapped the young mother, all her defensive instincts being roused by this unexpected indictment of her baby's perfections.

"Law, my dear, no offence. I've had six on 'em tongue-tied, and so I knows. And your baby *do* hold his lips so funny! And bein' a boy I thought he must be tongue-tied."

"Are boys more likely to be tongue-tied than girls?" asked an enquiring little lady in the corner seat.

"No one never heard of a girl bein' tongue-tied, ma'am. It's agin natur. All my boys were—six on 'em, ma'am—but not the girls. Sich a thing was never heard on."

And the good woman rattled on, with wise nods and glib recitals, and instances of all the cases she had ever known of masculine disabilities of speech.

But on one point she was firm, "It ain't likely in girls!"

Medical Matters.

FIRST AID.



A CASE which has recently occupied the attention of our lay contemporaries seems to teach a most important lesson as to the necessity for police officers to be efficiently trained in the administration of First Aid to the Wounded. A policeman found in one of the London parks an unconscious child whom he assumed to be dead, and he, therefore, apparently without much investigation into the child's condition, removed it to the mortuary. Fortunately the keeper of that depository was possessed of somewhat greater knowledge and experience, and discovering evidence of life, removed a scarf which was tightly tied around the child's neck, and by artificial respiration brought about its complete recovery. The incident throws a strange side-light upon the manner in which children of very tender years are permitted to wander about London by themselves. From a medical point of view, it seems probable that the child was not, as our lay contemporaries appear somewhat rashly to have decided, suffering from suffocation, but from some form of unconsciousness. Had it been suffocation there can be no doubt that, by the time the policeman had transferred the child to the mortuary, life would have been effectually extinguished. It is more than probable, moreover, that the child was just recovering from its attack when the mortuary keeper commenced his useful manipulations. It is understood that the police are regularly instructed in First Aid and Ambulance work, and it is to be hoped that, for the credit of a force which undoubtedly receives more blame and less praise than it deserves, in any future instance of unconscious persons discovered by the police, an effort will be made to ascertain, before the body is moved, whether, or not, life has really become extinct.

SEA-BATHING.

ONE of the most frequent questions asked by invalids and others at this period of the year is concerning the advisability of their indulgence in sea-bathing. The rules are really very simple, and can be applied by anyone with a modicum of good sense. Generally speaking, sea-bathing is a valuable tonic and restorative to those who are suffering from anæmia or general weakness, as, for example, in the case of a tired and exhausted town worker. Where, however, the general health has been greatly deteriorated by long continued illness, or from other causes, the reaction in which consists the essential benefit of bathing in the open sea, is rarely attain-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)