

movement until the public, or a majority, were convinced of the necessity. The public were being rapidly educated.

He suggested that local authorities should pay as compensation £2 per head for all animals compulsorily slaughtered of a value not exceeding £8; and a sum equal to one-fourth the market value of all others seized—but no animal should be valued at over £24. Any salvage on carcasses, minus the cost of removal and slaughter, should be repaid to the owner. Voluntary effort was insufficient, and the protection of human life would be most effectively undertaken by measures which applied to all animals, and not to those only which were in the hands of butchers and cowkeepers.

At a forthcoming meeting of the Council of the Soldiers' Help Society, a comprehensive scheme for providing accommodation for invalid soldiers in Convalescent Homes is to be considered, and, no doubt, passed. If public support is required we feel sure it will be generously given.

Mr. Thomas Agnes has given £100 to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, to be applied to the general funds.

Mr. Frederick Cruden Baines, late of Liverpool and Cairo, has left £10,000 to the Royal National Institution.

Towards the end of May a Congress of Specialists will meet in Berlin for the discussion of tuberculosis as the national disease, and for the consideration of the best methods of averting its ravages. Foreign Governments will be asked to send delegates. Committees for the establishment of national institutions for the treatment of lung diseases are beginning to display unusual activity, and it is believed that the Government intend to supplement private benevolence.

Hopes are expressed that the forthcoming Congress will result in something practical. At the head of the Committee of Organisation are the Duke of Ratibor and the eminent physician Dr. Von Leyden. The various German Governments, communities, medical associations, insurance institutions, trade organisations, hospitals, and other corporations will send delegates.

The report of the Duke of Sparta on the causes of the defeat of the Greeks in the war with Turkey ascribes the disaster to want of organisation, imperfect preparations, and the neglect of some of the Greek commanders to carry out his orders.

Professor Wright, who is now in India serving on the plague commission, and is one of the greatest living authorities on enteric fever, inoculated at Bangalore, in South India, 250 men of the 2nd West Riding Regiment against this disease.

Investigation has proved that the suspicious case of illness at St. Louise, in Mauritius, is one of true bubonic plague. Other cases have been discovered. All possible measures are being taken by the authorities to cope with the situation.

Professional Review.

GOLDEN RULES OF OBSTETRIC PRACTICE.

WE have received from the publishers a dainty trio of booklets, "Golden Rules of Surgical Practice," "Golden Rules of Gynæcology," and "Golden Rules of Obstetric Practice." These little books, which are bound in white, with gold lettering, are intended for the use of medical students, but they contain much that is useful to nurses also. The "Golden Rules of Surgical Practice" are by E. Hurry Fenwick, F.R.C.S., Surgeon and Lecturer on Clinical Surgery at the London Hospital, those on Gynæcology by S. Jervois Aarons, M.D., Registrar to the Hospital for Women, Soho, and those on Obstetric Practice by W. E. Fothergill, M.A., B.Sc., M.D., Author of "A Manual of Midwifery." We venture to predict that this little series will be a most popular one. It is published by John Wright and Co., Bristol, and Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, and Co., Limited, London.

In his preface to "Golden Rules of Obstetric Practice" the author tells us that a great authority has said, "A clean shirt every day, rigid attention to aseptic precautions, and a short second stage" are the only essentials for success in Obstetric Practice. Without going quite so far as this there is no doubt that the principle of absolute cleanliness embodied in this terse rule is of most supreme importance in obstetric work. Another golden rule which falls under no scientific heading, and therefore finds place in the preface is "Always be kind to women, for they have a great deal to put up with." Again, "The more you know, the less you will do," is a truism which all will recognize as of moment so far as interference with the course of nature during labour is concerned, although, much can be done to ease the painful conditions associated with it.

Here are a few Golden Rules culled from the book:—

When called to a case of supposed labour always attend as soon as possible.

A hot bath during the first stage is most comforting to the patient. It may well be prolonged and should never be omitted if it can be obtained.

If there is no mackintosh at hand use a few sheets of brown paper for protecting the bedding.

When trying to resuscitate, immerse the child in a hot bath containing mustard for a time, and then sprinkle cold water on its chest. Do not immerse the child in a cold bath.

Do not hurry the third stage.

Albuminuric patients whose limbs are much swelled are less likely to have fits than those in whom swelling is absent.

Do not use ice or cold water for checking post-partum hæmorrhage. Hot water works better and stimulates the patient, while cold lowers the patient's vitality and increases shock.

A baby's binder is unnecessary after the cord has separated and the navel has healed. Its only use is to hold in position the umbilical dressing.

Nurses who are studying for the L. O. S. examination will find this little volume of much use to them, describing as it does most clearly and concisely much that it behoves them to know, while the very moderate price of one shilling brings it within the reach of all.

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