

under their individual care, and let them find out how many girls break down under it.

I understand there are nearly 100 nurses, but there is work, and hard work, for 200, and to quote one of the speakers, "Is the Vestry insolvent," that it cannot keep an adequate staff? Surely if any town can afford to treat its workers humanely Liverpool can, and its ratepayers who give their daughters to the work have a right to expect a little less work than would be expected from a horse. Unfortunately I speak from bitter experience, as I sent a strong healthy daughter two years ago, and have been trying to nurse her to health again since May, when she completely broke down, each doctor we have seen speaking strongly of the strain on both physical and nervous systems.

No moving now can undo the damage done to my own, but I should be only too glad if these lines may be the means of making it ever so little easier for those already there and to follow.

Surely it only needs the attention of the Vestry to be drawn to the matter for it to be remedied, and ours is no solitary case.

Yours, etc.,

A NURSE'S MOTHER.

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THE Mr. William Rathbone, who is on the Liverpool Vestry, is also a member of the Queen's Jubilee Institute Council. We hope he will comply with "A Nurse's Mother's" suggestion and, if it is found necessary, increase the number of nurses, and, in consequence, decrease the hours of work of the present staff.

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A WOMAN, named Mary Corkery, has been arrested on a charge of manslaughter in connection with the death of a farmer's wife, living near Cork, from puerperal fever. Mary Corkery, who, although untrained, is described as a nurse, attended the deceased woman in her confinement. In consequence of the report of the local police sergeant, which contained a letter from a medical man, stating that, in his opinion, the woman contracted puerperal fever from neglect, an inquest was held. The Coroner, in summing up, said that the evidence revealed a shocking state of things. He did not see how the jury could return any other verdict than that the deceased died from puerperal fever in consequence of the culpable neglect of the nurse, Mary Corkery. A verdict to this effect was accordingly returned. If the effect of this verdict is to demonstrate to untrained women the danger of acting as nurses in these cases, and the possible consequence to themselves, of arrest for manslaughter, good will have been accomplished.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Upwards of 1,000 doctors were present at the anniversary service of the Guild of St. Luke, held last week at St. Paul's Cathedral. Mrs. Scharlieb, M.D., Mrs. Stanley Boyd, M.D., and Mrs. Dowson, M.D., were amongst those who represented medical women. The bright robes worn by many of those present gave effective colouring to an impressive scene.

The Harveian oration has this year been delivered by Dr. George Vivian Poore, who said:—"It is to the leaders of medicine that we owe the recognition of the fact that conduct which we once regarded as sin, calling for cruel and revengeful punishments, is in reality disease, which must, indeed, be controlled with firmness, but firmness tempered with mercy rather than vengeance. There can be no doubt that one of the causes which has led to the decrease of our prison population and the increase of our asylum population has been the gradual appreciation by the educated public that much disorderly conduct is, in reality, disease. Not even a Jeffreys would now be permitted to prescribe hard labour or a flogging for a poor wretch with optic neuritis, whose real need was iodide of potassium. There can be no doubt that our increased power of recognising the early stages of brain disease, a power which we largely owe to those who have sought out the secrets of Nature by way of experiment, has made for mercy."

It is reported that five cases of plague are under treatment at the Santos Isolation Hospital, Brazil. Eight cases have now been isolated, three of which have proved fatal. The delegate of the Health Board at Santos has, however, reported that he believes the third death is due to pernicious lymphangitis, and not to plague. Cultures taken by Dr. Lutz, director of the Santos Bacteriological Institute, will be sent by him to Dr. Yersin.

Is Our Stock Deteriorating?

The Article on what he calls "The Cult of Inferiority" by Mr. Arnold White in this month's "National Review," should be widely read, as it is cram full of wisdom, and he is surely right when he asserts that "The higher average of life has been accompanied by a lower average of health." "The boy and girl marriages of the pauper classes are a loathly scandal."

Mr. White attacks vigorously the charitable festivities connected with the two Royal Jubilee celebrations.

"People who wanted baronetcies pestered people who wanted to be let alone, to enable destitute invalids to propagate the unfit. . . . The greed of the idle poor is roused, parental responsibility annulled,

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)