

to be seen at the present day, and to make people understand that it was not necessary to demonstrate their woe by purchasing so many yards of crape. As to the treatment of the dead, it was asserted that where bodies were buried in lead they should always be embalmed. As at present carried out, embalming was a very expensive process and was in the hands of a few people, but in reality it could be carried out for a few pence. The system of deep burial should be abolished. Cremation should be imperative in all cases where death had occurred from infectious diseases, such as smallpox—indeed in every case due to parasitical invasion. Embalming was also necessary in every case of intramural interment. No body ought to be placed in a public building unless it was embalmed. The Rev. J. J. Coxhead moved "That fresh legislation is necessary whereby (1) the time beyond which it is illegal to keep a body unburied should be determined; (2) the rights of possession in the soil of public ground should be renewable and not held in perpetuity; (3) overcrowding of the dead should be made a legal offence, liable to a penalty on summary conviction before a justice of the peace; and (4) the land selected for a new cemetery should be certified as suitable for the dissolution of human remains before being used." The Rev. T. Carrick seconded the motion, which was carried.

At a conference of members of Parliament held last week a committee was appointed for the purpose of approaching the Government with a view to inducing them to introduce legislation on the subject of the registration of plumbers in the next Session of Parliament. Plumbers have votes, so no doubt Parliament will find time to consider their wishes. Nurses have none, and until they get them, their interests can be safely ignored.

Dr. A. E. Wright, Professor of Pathology in the Army Medical School, Netley, published in the *Lancet* last week a note on the result obtained by the anti-typhoid inoculations among the beleaguered garrison at Ladysmith. The following table shows the position:—

	Number.	Cases of enteric.	Proportion of attacks to total number.	Deaths.	Proportion of deaths to total number.	Proportion of deaths to attacks.
Not inoculated...	10,529	1,489	1 in 7.07	329	1 in 32	1 in 4.52
Inoculated.....	1,705	35	1 in 48.7	8	1 in 213	1 in 4.4

The dangers of American railway travel are strikingly shown in the annual report of the Interstate Commerce Commission. This report shows that during the past twelve months 7,123 persons were killed and 44,620 injured on the railways of the United States. Of the number killed over 2,000 were railway employes, 4,000 were persons classified as trespassers, 82 passengers lost their lives in collisions, and 693 were killed by trains at level crossings.

Five cases of suspected plague are reported from Beyrout, and a quarantine of 10 days is consequently imposed on arrivals from that place.

## Our Letter from Holland.

### REPORT OF THE SEVENTH GENERAL MEETING OF THE DUTCH ASSOCIATION FOR SICK-NURSING.



The seventh general meeting of the Dutch Association for Sick-Nursing has this year been held at Zwolle, a nice country town, the capital of

the province Overÿssel. Dr. J. Kniper, the medical superintendent of the Wilhelmina Hospital at Amsterdam, presided. In his opening speech he alluded to the recently started "Dutch Association for furthering the interests of Male and Female Nurses." "It is a fact well known to you all," he said, "that efforts have been made in order to start a Dutch Association for furthering the interests of male and female nurses. The circular, published with this aim, does not give any reason why the founders are not content with the Dutch Association for Sick Nursing. Our association is not indicated in it by a single word. I know very well that not all subscribers are aware of the existence of the "Bond," but yet it seems very improbable that all of them are so absolutely ignorant in our Dutch nursing world as not to know of the existence and the aspirations of the Bond. One only has to take in hand our monthly nursing magazine (*Maandblad voor Ziekenverpleging*) to be informed that it is the organ of the Dutch Association for Sick Nursing. And it is an undeniable truth that our Nursing Magazine is not quite a stranger to the originators of the new association, for it has served them as a means to send out their summons for the first meeting. I therefore have asked myself; does the Dutch Association for sick-nursing not further sufficiently the interests of our male and female nurses? But when I consider, that the Bond has established a three years' training for nurses, a demand, acknowledged as wise and necessary by all those who are competent to judge in this matter; further, that the Bond in its seven years' existence has given financial aid to a great number of nurses, who by sickness had got into trouble; that the Bond has offered to many nurses an opportunity of availing themselves of a course in cookery lessons; that the Bond has made an inquiry as to the conditions of nursing in the Dutch hospitals, and that the result of it has been several improvements on behalf of the nursing staffs, it cannot be said, that the Bond is neglecting its duties. Much has already been done, but a great amount of work is still waiting; and that we are fully aware of this is also proved by the fact, that our fellow-member of the Board of Managers of the Bond is preparing an organisation of private nurses. The laws and regulations of the new association and its practical deeds will show us how far its aim and its means agree with ours."

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY TREASURER.

Before reading her annual report, the Secretary-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)