

strength of the heart; another given to strengthen the heart may also increase the flow of urine, so that classification may well be a little puzzling.

It will dispel bewilderment to remember that the most important and prominent characteristic of a drug is usually taken as its representative quality, the others being for the time ignored.

In general the effects of medicines are classed as primary and secondary, immediate or remote. By the primary or immediate action is meant the first definite result of the drug, and subsequent changes which are brought about by this first result are termed the secondary or remote effects—viz., if a diuretic is administered to a dropsical patient a copious flow of urine soon occurs as the primary effect. As a result of increased urination fluid is largely abstracted from the body tissues, and consequent diminution of the dropsy is the secondary effect.

From the foregoing extracts it will be seen that the book contains much that is of interest to nurses, who appreciate the importance of intelligent knowledge in regard to the drugs they are called upon to administer. As it is a part of a nurse's duty to watch for and report upon the effects of the medicines which patients are taking, she should make a point of acquainting herself with the composition of the medicines she is called upon to administer, and the effects they are likely to produce in each case.

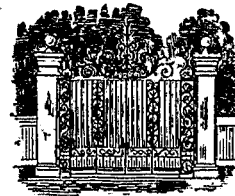
At one time it was usual in some hospitals for the administration of medicines to be assigned to the lady pupil, who might be an entirely new comer in a ward, as an easy piece of work. Now this responsible duty is usually performed by the Sister, or, in her absence, by the Staff Nurse.

Miss Dock arranges the various drugs alphabetically according to their physiological action, thus:—astringents, anthelmintics, carminatives, diaphoretics, haemostatics, revulsants, &c., and into liquid and solid preparations. She classifies them also according to their prominent therapeutical action, thus in connection with the circulatory system we have drugs acting on the heart, and on the vessels; with the respiratory system, drugs acting on respiration and on the bronchial tubes; with the digestive system, drugs acting on the salivary glands, on the stomach, on the intestines, on the liver; with the nervous system, drugs acting on the spinal cord and nerves, on the brain and nerves; with the urinary organs, drugs acting on the kidneys and on the bladder; there are also those acting on the generative organs, the skin, the eye, as well as substances having general systemic effect on blood and tissue, the principal antiseptics and disinfectants, and a table of poisons, their antidotes and antagonists. The chapter on Serum Therapy and the note on Radiology will be appreciated by many nurses. The book is full of information of the greatest value to nurses, and a copy should be in every training school library.

Steps are being taken by Hindu and Mahomedan ladies in Bombay to devote the balance of the fund subscribed for the Indian ladies' entertainment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales to the Gokaldas Nursing Association, on condition that the proposed new quarters for nurses attached to the hospital are named after Her Royal Highness.

## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



It is reported that the Bishop of London is well satisfied with the results that have attended the five mass meetings for men in connection with the Social Purity Crusade in which he and the Bishop of Stepney have been associated. At one meeting no less than fifty men came out as converts to a better moral standard, and the straight-from-the-shoulder talk of the two Bishops has brought them many messages of grateful thanks for timely warning and advice. "We do not mean to leave this business to women," said Dr. Winnington Ingram. "We want to rally the men of London to help us in rescue work." This is natural work in which the clergy generally might well support their Spiritual Fathers.

The women graduates of the University of Edinburgh have decided to carry their claim for votes in Parliamentary elections to the law courts, and the action will be heard in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, at an early date. A summons has been served at the instance of certain of the graduates on the officials of the Courts of the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrews. While contending that the election of Scottish University representatives differs from ordinary Parliamentary elections, the women graduates say that, contrary to general belief, women are not expressly excluded by statute from voting at Parliamentary elections, and that the ground for denying them the right has been founded on custom.

The names of three women are given in a recent French magazine, says the *Daily Chronicle*, as being in the running for the Cross of the Legion of Honour—Madame la Comtesse de Noailles, Madame Sarah Bernhardt, and Mlle. Dufau—and it is an interesting fact that since the Cross was first given in 1792, as a "récompense militaire, et aussi pour récompenser les services et les vertus civiles," there have been 109 women recipients of it. Among these, as with the men, bravery was at first the usual reason for the honour. In 1808, the first woman to receive it was Virginie Ghesquière, decorated for passing as her brother in the Portuguese campaign and saving her colonel's life. Marie Schellink was decorated at Jemmappes, and Madame Brulon, yet another soldier heroine, received her Cross for defending the mayoralty of Oizon against the rebels.

After these early women warriors, those who bore the Legion of Honour seem to have been principally nuns, remarkable for their charity, until 1863. In that year Rosa Bonheur was the first woman to be decorated neither for courage nor for piety, but for talent. Since then the little band, slowly mounting up to its hundred, has included fewer names, it is true, of artistic merit than those known for goodness or heroism, but these few are very distinguished. Among them are Madame Bartet, the brilliant actress of to-day, Madame Dieulafoy, the explorer, Madame

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