

had provided three Queen's Nurses, to live in Tentercroft Street, to attend to special cases in Lincoln. Lady Mary Turner reported that a good bit of work the association was doing was trying to train women to cook.

Professor Dr. Arthur Keller, director of the Kaiserin Auguste Victoria Houses in Germany, accompanied by his charming wife, is now in this country, inquiring into nursing systems for the German Empress. During her recent visit to England the Empress was greatly interested in nursing matters in England, and is now anxious to learn of all its various sections. Professor Keller thoroughly realises the importance of the organisation of nursing education as a preparation for efficient work. The system of training children's nurses on the Norland principle, crèches and nurseries will also be inquired into. Through the International Council of Nurses, by request of Sister Agnes Karll, Professor Keller has been advised how to set about his inquiries.

### A Preliminary Training School.

The Committee of the Bristol Infirmary have arranged to establish a preliminary training school for their nurses.

Very suitable premises have been secured for the purpose, which will be placed under the control of a Sister who will instruct candidates for admission to the nursing staff of the Bristol Royal Infirmary in the various matters pertaining to the profession prior to their being received into the wards. The curriculum is a very comprehensive one, and the time spent in this training school will certainly prove of very great advantage to the probationers. The Bristol Royal Infirmary was one of the first three provincial hospitals started about 1735, and the authorities are again showing their progressive spirit by making this the first residential preliminary training school for nurses out of London. Indeed there are only two such schools attached to London hospitals, the original one at the London Hospital, and a more recent one at Guy's Hospital. We heartily congratulate the Committee and the Matron upon this decision.

### Matron for Italy.

An Englishwoman is required as Matron for a small surgical Nursing Home at Catania, Italy; salary £36. Italian must be spoken, and application made through Miss M. A. Turton, 20, Via de Pontefici, Rome, whose interesting letter on the work at Maddalena will be found in another column.

### Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



For the protection of infant life a Select Committee is to be appointed this week at the instance of the Government to inquire as to the desirability of extending the provisions of the Infant Life Protection Act, 1897, "to homes in which not more than one infant is kept in consideration of periodical payments," and of altering the limit of age prescribed by that Act. At present the homes where one infant is cared for are not inspected.

Mr. Birrell has announced in Parliament that he hopes to pass an Act for Ireland on the subject of consumption. Official figures show that the death-rate from consumption is far higher in Ireland than in England or Scotland. The total deaths in 1906 in Ireland were nearly 12,000. A joint sanatorium near Dublin is suggested, and compulsory notification of phthisis is debated.

The Home Secretary has appointed twenty-three of the officers and mission sisters of the Church Army to act as probation officers under the Probation of Prisoners Act.

The community has reason to be grateful for the action of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in putting a stop to the horrible cruelties practised upon the unhappy victims in the Rushworth case, heard at York. The general public seldom hears, except in sensational instances, of the excellent work this Society is doing in preventing defenceless children being subjected to systematic cruelty, starvation, and neglect. Last year alone over 2,000 prosecutions were inaugurated by the Society, of which the great majority resulted in convictions. This, however, is only a small part of the Society's work, as it refrains from prosecution except when cases are so flagrant as to render it unavoidable. In most instances warning is given by the Society's inspectors, the number of cases dealt with annually being over 40,000. From this the amount of child suffering in the United Kingdom may be gauged.

A woman summoned to the Marylebone Police Court for not sending her child to school said that the child was ill, but she (the mother) was too poor to get the required medical certificate. Mr. Paul Taylor said there ought to be a doctor paid out of the public funds to give certificates to poor people without charge in these circumstances.

Lord Rothschild, as president of the Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital, Aylesbury, last week laid the foundation-stone of the new wing to the building, which is being erected at a cost of about £10,000, towards which a sum of £7,500 has been subscribed.

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