

wrist and thumb joint, which, for no other better name, is termed "hoppers' gout." The thing that seems to give most relief is a belladonna fomentation. During the morning cocoa and cake are taken to the fields and sold there, which is the great delight of the children. At midday, the man called the "booker" (who notes the quantity picked) calls "all off," and that means that they sit down by their "bins" and eat their mid-day meal. After that they pick on until between 4 and 6 p.m.

The prettiest sight is then to be seen, for they all light their fires and commence cooking, and sometimes washing. The country around is lighted up by the blaze.

In the various fields marquees are erected by the mission which is held for hoppers, and there they can write their letters, read the daily papers, and at 8 p.m. a "sing-song" is held. This keeps them away from the public-houses, and passes the evening pleasantly.

The gipsies are particularly interesting, and in the case of cuts or wounds theirs were far quicker to heal than in children from the East End. One notices particularly their devotion to their children, and a baby with bronchitis had no less than twelve people to sit up with it one night.

The village shops in the early part of the evening are filled with the hoppers, who carry their big baskets on their arms to get provisions in.

Sunday is a great day for visitors to come, and the gipsies cook enough to last them most of the week.

The caravans are generally kept spotlessly clean, and it's a great sign of friendship if you are invited inside.

The beds are similar to "bunks," the children sleeping below; there is a grate with an oven inside where cooking is done, and all their various knickknacks are hung about.

The children are very delighted at a magic-lantern, the general expression being, "Oh, ain't it 'andsome!"

Altogether, a mission to hoppers is a happy time, for one always finds happiness in making others happy.

At the annual meeting of the Crickhowell Nursing Association, the Hon. Secretary, the Hon. Mrs. S. H. Cowper-Coles, reported that special nurses had had to be engaged on several occasions to nurse serious cases occurring at the same time, but she was glad to say all the cases were properly nursed. This recurring expense of extra nursing must be faced, and she looked forward to the establishment of a

South Wales Nursing Association from which they could get extra nurses at lower rates.

The Board of Superintendence of the Dublin Hospitals, of which Miss A. M. MacDonnell, R.R.C., is a member, has just issued its report to the Lord Lieutenant—as provided in the Dublin Hospitals Regulation Act, 1856—on the eleven hospitals which receive grants from Parliament. The Board state that all the hospitals are managed in a thoroughly economic fashion, but one and all are in want of funds, and there is not one in which some useful addition or change does not wait on the pecuniary means to carry it out. In regard to the out-patient departments, the Board say that the great improvements in hospital efficiency noticeable in the wards have not been extended in anything like the same degree to the outpatient departments. For this they attach no blame to the hospital authorities, but attribute it to lack of funds.

The Managing Committee of the Cork Street Fever Hospital, Dublin, report that Dr. Christopher Joynt, and Surgeon-Lieut.-Col. J. Backhouse, who visited the hospital on behalf of the Dublin Hospital Sunday Fund, state that "in the children's ward a special new lavatory has been placed owing to the fact that these little patients are in the habit of dropping broken toys into them. A special tray is fitted, which can be opened as required, and the blocking materials removed." After commenting on the Nurses' Home, which has recently been painted and varnished, the Sunday Fund visitors state "the various arrangements and general management of this hospital reflect great credit on Dr. Marshall Day, the Resident Physician, and Miss Carson Rae, the Lady Superintendent." In this the Managing Committee heartily concur, and add an appreciation of the very efficient work of the staff generally. An excellent feature in the report of this hospital is that the names of all members of the nursing staff are published, with the appointments and changes which have taken place during the past year.

In connection with the outbreak of cholera at the European General Hospital, Calcutta, in which six nurses lost their lives, it is reported that Mr. Haffkine and Major Clemesha, who have been investigating the cause of the outbreak, have found cholera bacilli in the dregs of a milk-jug, of which the contents had been taken by the nurses on the previous day. It is believed that infection was carried to the food in the kitchen of the nurses' quarters by flies from some native tents the other side of the wall of the hospital compound.

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