

Medical Officer of Health for the City has issued a necessary warning counselling people not to return to their houses after the subsidence of the water, or at any rate not to take their children there till the houses have been thoroughly cleaned and carefully dried, and that too hurried occupation of dwellings may give rise to serious illness. Much sympathy will be felt for Mr. Louis Tillett, formerly Member of Parliament for Norwich, who, while carrying a nurse through five feet of water to the assistance of a woman in labour, sustained a severe lacerated wound of the hand from the barbed wire surrounding the garden.

Last year a member of the Swedish Lower House of Parliament proposed an inquiry into the conditions of Swedish nursing. The proposal was confirmed by the Parliament, and two months ago the Government named the members of a special committee to make such inquiry. Three nurses, including Sister Emmy Lindhagen, were appointed to this committee, all of whom are officers of the Swedish Nurses' Association.

The *International Hospital Record* gives a word of salutary advice to nurses as to their responsibility in countenancing unsatisfactory conditions in nursing homes. It asks: "Ought nurses to lend themselves to the continued mismanagement which characterizes many of these homes, and is shown most conspicuously in the treatment of members of that profession without whose aid they could not subsist for a week? There can be no doubt that trained nurses are directly responsible for many of the abuses which occur in ill-managed nursing homes, for without their countenance it would be impossible to carry them on, and the whole unsatisfactory fabric of pretence and muddle would inevitably crumble away. We say deliberately that nurses ought not to allow themselves to be made use of by unscrupulous proprietors of nursing homes, who, beneath the good certificates of one or two of the staff, take occasion to hide the deficiencies of half-qualified women wholly unfit to have the care of patients."

We believe that many nurses will be glad to know that the exhaustive report on the Educational Status of Nursing prepared by Miss M. A. Nutting, and published by the United States Bureau of Education, may be obtained gratis on application to the Bureau at Washington. The number of the Bulletin which should be quoted in making application for it, is Bulletin 1912, No. 7.

REFLECTIONS.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The Report of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London mentions an increase in the expenditure of the hospitals. It attributes this to the rise in the cost of living, and to expenditure on new treatment.

At a recent meeting of the Governors of the Swansea Hospital a letter was read from the honorary medical staff, stating that all their members, together with the consulting staff, with one exception, had taken the British Medical Association's pledge under the Insurance Act, refusing to render professional service until the terms, conditions, and administration of medical benefit had been approved.

The annual report to Parliament of the Board of Superintendence of the Dublin Hospitals, which receives grants from Parliament, states that the hospitals under the superintendence of this Board fulfil in an economical and thorough way the objects for which they were instituted.

THE ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE.

LECTURES FOR WOMEN HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES.

A course of lectures to assist school teachers and other students entering for the examinations in school hygiene, including elementary physiology, and for women health visitors and school nurses, has been arranged under the auspices of the Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W., commencing on Monday, September 30th, 1912, at 7 p.m.

The course will consist of lectures and practical demonstrations on physiology, personal hygiene, and the sanitation of school buildings and dwellings. The hygiene of child-life and educational methods.

Special arrangements will be made for each student to attend a course of six infant consultations under the direction of Dr. G. Eric C. Pritchard, and in connection with these opportunity will be afforded for students to follow up this instruction by visiting the infants in their homes.

A fee of £1 rs. will be charged for the course.

The various subjects to be dealt with will be given by well-known authorities, and will be illustrated with diagrams, drawings, models, and lantern slides.

The museum of sanitary appliances and the library are open, free to students attending the course. Arrangements are made by which students can obtain the loan of books for a small payment.

Students and others desirous of attending the lectures are requested to send in their names at once to the secretary of the institute, E. White Wallis, Esq.

The next examination for Women Health Visitors and School Nurses will be held in London on December 6th and 7th.

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