

the red corpuscles, which in the highly magnified picture looked like numberless mice racing at great speed over objects much larger than themselves.

This was followed by a blood current going sometimes fast and sometimes slow, according to beat of heart, through the vessel. Then followed the rapid action of cholera germs in a culture of broth. No description by the pen of an ordinary mortal can convey an adequate impression of the marvels of that never-to-be-forgotten afternoon. Fertility of imagination on the part of the readers must be relied upon to supply what is wanting in descriptive force.

Lest the audience should have been regaled with too much of the marvellous in Nature of a *descriptive* character, the lecturer had provided a most delectable treat, through the kindness of the Co-operative Cinematograph Co. and Messrs. Pathé Frères.

Nature in a gentle and beautiful mood was then shown in *construction*. Flowers grew before astonished eyes. The rose, and the horse chestnut threw out their buds, unfolded their leaves, and grew to their highest developments. It was truly magical! Still another form of life was demonstrated. The kingfisher, his haunts and habits were shown in a series of vivid pictures. One could almost hear the sound of the water and the splash that he made, as he dived and brought up fish nearly as large as himself.

When at last the prodigal feast had come to an end, the lecturer said a few words in defence of science and scientists. It was commonly believed, he said, that scientists were materialists; he warmly disclaimed this, adding that the true interpretation of science was the looking through Nature to higher things, and in doing so the Master Hand was revealed, the One Great Architect of Nature.

In proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer, Lord Goschen said that thanks were also due to scientists generally for the immense progress they had made in science and research work. The appreciation and thanks of the audience were expressed with great vigour in the usual way.

By the hospitality of Lord Goschen a very generous tea was provided in two of the adjoining rooms, which was also greatly appreciated.

One interesting fact of scientific progress must not be forgotten, germs can now be seen *moving* beneath the microscope, this being made possible by the latest development of the microscope.

BEATRICE KENT.

A MISSING LEICESTER NURSE.

The unaccountable disappearance of Miss Annie Brown, a nurse, employed at the Narborough County Asylum, Leicester, is causing considerable distress to her relatives and friends.

Nurse Brown left the asylum about 2.30 on January 2nd, and, in spite of an extended search by the police and careful enquiries at every likely place, no trace of her has been discovered.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.



A meeting of the Matrons' Council was held at 431, Oxford Street, London, on Friday, January 31st. Miss Heather - Bigg, President, was in the chair. There was a good attendance of members.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters of regret at non-attendance were received from Miss Musson, Miss Waind, Miss Wright, Miss Oslar, and many others. The following letter in reply to the resolution *re* trained nurses in war—passed at the Wigan meeting—received from the Secretary of the British Red Cross Society, was read:—

MADAM,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication containing resolution passed by the Matrons' Council held at Wigan on November 2nd.

The Society quite approves of your resolution.

The Society has only forwarded six trained nurses to the front, and the majority of these have had previous war experience, except in the case of one or two, who are fully trained nurses, having undergone a three years' course of training at a general hospital. You may rely that in no case would the Society forward any but fully trained nurses to assist in the work at the seat of war.

I am, Madam,

Your obedient servant,

FRANK HASTINGS,

Secretary.

After some discussion on this letter, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick gave notice that she would bring the question of providing British Nurses in foreign wars before the Council at its next meeting.

A letter from Miss M. Thurston, Lady Superintendent, The Hospital, Christchurch, New Zealand, was read, asking for information regarding arrangements for the San Francisco Congress, and expressing the sympathy of New Zealand nurses for the State Registration movement in England. The Secretary was instructed to inform Miss Thurston that information regarding the next International Congress of Nurses could best be obtained from Miss L. L. Dock, Hon. Secretary, International Council of Nurses.

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