

LEAGUE JOURNALS.

The *Journal of the Cleveland Street Nurses' League* is always remarkably well got up—paper and printing the pink of perfection. In the recent issue the matter is also very good. In "Medical Electricity," Dr. Agnes F. Savill gives some "Simple Rules for Nurses." She says wisely of *The talkative Nurse*: Before commencing the application of electricity, the nurse must concentrate her mind on the preparations detailed below. The human element in Nursing is strong; and, rightly understood, this element is a factor conducive to the good of the patient. Good temper, tact and sympathy, gentleness and repose of manner are great assets. Repose of the mind is essential for the patient during the application of the galvanic current. A fidgety and excitable nurse will evoke a disturbance of the circulation of the patient, which negatives the sedative effect of the current. It has been proved by experiment that the emotions of anger, worry, fear or joy, create alterations in the blood pressure which, by themselves, cause deflections of the galvanometer. These facts prove the importance of what has always been empirically believed that, for the best results of galvanic application the mind of the patient should be at ease. Thus, it is evident that too much talking interferes with the benefit of the treatment. Again, a nurse who is drawn into conversation while preparing the details, cannot devote her attention to those details, and one or more of the common errors are made, and by sheer force of habit are repeated in subsequent sittings, and perhaps are not discovered until after many applications the physician finds no improvement in the patient's condition."

A most instructive paper follows.

The International note is touched in the paper; and charming pictures contributed by Mlle. P. Hellouin (a pupil in the celebrated Ecole des Infirmières de l'Assistance Publique de Paris), which is under the direction of M. André Mesureur; and Mlle. C. Clement (the Matron), Mlle. Grenier (the Superintendent), and five *monitrices*. We are glad to note, on the cover of the journal, that the affiliation of the League with the National Council of Nurses, and thus with the International Council—is notified. Thus, in visiting other countries, the members of the Cleveland Street Nurses' League may claim and would receive a professional and sisterly welcome from members of National Associations of Nurses. In Paris the greatest courtesy is always extended to nurses by the Assistance Publique.

CHARGES OF CRUELTY.

At Mortlake Police Court, on Monday, Dr. H. T. Hamilton was charged with having taken charge for payment of a lunatic in an unlicensed house; and with having ill-treated her and another woman, a certified lunatic. Evidence was given by two nurses employed at the establishment, upon which we shall comment at the termination of the trial.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

WOMEN.

The Dinner given in honour of Lady Strachey at the Lyceum Club on Monday evening was a really delightful occasion, inspired as it was by affection and regard for the guest of honour, who was evidently much touched and charmed by its Scottish character. Mrs. Arthur Phillip presided, and did the honours right royally, and what with pipers, tartans, and favours of white heather, it was difficult to realise one was on the wrong side of the Border. The following members of Lady Strachey's family were present: Mr. St. Loe Strachey, Miss Strachey, Mrs. Rendal, Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Mr. Trevor Grant, and Mrs. Grant.

The text of the Bill introduced into the House of Commons by the Home Secretary "to provide for the temporary Discharge of Prisoners whose further detention in prison is undesirable on account of the condition of their health," is appalling in its cold-blooded cruelty, but merely expresses in print the hatred and antagonism of many men towards women whose outlook on life is not bounded by the desire to be kept by members of the other sex. It is a disgrace to the country that a Minister of the Crown could be found willing to introduce such a Bill, and though British men will stand a good deal where the coercion of women is concerned, we shall be surprised if the House of Commons endorses Mr. McKenna's latest attempt at legislation, which is bound to fail just as other repressive measures have done.

The Bill provides that "if the Secretary of State is satisfied that by reason of the condition of a prisoner's health it is undesirable to detain him in prison, but that such condition of health being due in whole or in part to the prisoner's own conduct in prison, it is desirable that his release should be temporary and conditional only, the Secretary of State may, if he thinks fit, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, by order authorise the temporary discharge of the prisoner for such period, and subject to such conditions as may be stated in the order." If the prisoner fails to comply with the order or return he may be arrested without warrant and taken back to prison. The sentence is suspended from the day on which he is discharged from prison to the day on which he is received back again. The order forcibly reminds us of a cat playing with a mouse. When through the physical torture of forcible feeding a Suffragette has been reduced to such a precarious condition of health that the prison authorities fear for her life, and do not wish to have her die on their hands, she can be temporarily discharged, her jailors being secure in the knowledge that as soon as she has recovered sufficiently by outside treatment to stand further torture they can lay hands upon her at will and begin their fiendish work again. If the British nation will stand this kind of cruelty, then let them never again find fault with the Spanish Inquisition, for the two things are on a par.

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