

put up. The entrance is at the back on the north, into a central hall, out of which open three wards, for four patients; a little operating theatre and a lavatory. Along the front, the south side of the house, is a splendid verandah on to which through wide doors the patients' beds can be wheeled. Downstairs in the basement, which is on the south side, above the level of the ground and well-lighted, are the nurses' dining-room, the kitchen and laundry, besides furnace-room and cold storage. Upstairs are the nurses' bedrooms, bath-room, linen cupboard, and a beautiful little chapel.

How far afield will the benefit of the home be felt? People fifty miles away will still have to face the terrible journey before they can get to the home. How far will it be possible to carry out anything in the nature of district work? These are problems which experience alone can settle. Then another series of problems to be faced—the financial ones. The aim of the Mission is to provide the very best skill and care at a price the farmer can pay. Mr. Boyd says: "We know the need, the pitiful need, and it is up to us to make our best endeavour to meet it. . . . When the work is established and can be shown to be effective for the common good, an approach will be made to the Provincial Government for some assistance towards its maintenance."

In a few years we foresee a solution to the distance difficulty. We hear the tinkle of the 'phone bell, and see our district nurse—(not in cloak and flying veil)—step into her bird-like aeroplane, and, fully equipped, gaily fly away over the vast rolling farm lands and prairies—descending gracefully to earth at the door of the homestead from which the call has come.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY AID DETACHMENTS.

We have received from Messrs. Harrison & Sons, 45-47, St. Martin's Lane, W.C., an admirably got up little manual for the use of the Women's Voluntary Aid Detachments, called "Notes for Practice meetings," price 1s. net. The instructions given are clear and practical, and would be valuable if used under the direction of a medical officer or trained nurse in the case of first aid instruction, or of a trained nurse in purely nursing subjects. But the preface states that they have been compiled in the hope that they may be of assistance to commandants in conducting meetings for practice in first aid and nursing subjects when instruction by a medical officer or trained nurse is not available. Such subjects as bed making and splint padding, to take the first two only, can only be satisfactorily learnt from practical instruction given by a trained nurse, and the first-essential for "practice meetings" is to secure the supervision of one who is a mistress of these arts, otherwise a practice can only be an example of the blind leading the blind.

THE SCOTTISH MEDICAL, NURSING AND HEALTH EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE.

The Scottish Exhibition and Nursing Conference was opened on Saturday last in the Zoo Buildings, Glasgow. Professor Glaister performed the ceremony, and said it appeared to him that the time would soon arrive when municipalities in the van of sanitary progress, as Glasgow was, would consider it a part of the educative measures of their propaganda, to establish permanent exhibitions of the chief objects pertaining to the prevention of disease, and the advancement of the public health. Such an exhibition might well form a section of one of the city museums, and he commended the suggestion to the Chairman of the Public Health Committee.

THE POPULAR ADDRESS.

The first session of the Conference was held in the evening, when Bailie J. W. Stewart, Chairman of the Public Health Committee of the Glasgow Corporation, presided. He was supported by Sir Samuel Chisholm and Professor Glaister, and introduced Dr. Carstairs C. Douglas, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.E.

SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND METHOD IN RELATION TO THE NURSING PROFESSION.

Dr. Carstairs Douglas, who gave a popular address on "Scientific Knowledge and Method in Relation to the Nursing Profession," after thanking the Executive Committee for the honour they had done him in asking him to give the opening address at the Conference, said that all were agreed that women found in the nursing profession a vocation peculiarly fitted both for their heart and mind. Their powers of intuition, their innate sympathy, and that almost maternal feeling which women have for the sick, the helpless, and the lonely, all found an almost ideal field for their exercise in the province of nursing. In this vocation women have been engaged for centuries, and, as practised in olden days, nursing might be regarded as a domestic art based largely on empirical methods. In the past twenty years, however, there had been a gradual permeation of nurses' ideas and nursing methods by scientific knowledge and scientific principles, with the result that old rule-of-thumb procedures had been superseded by processes characterized by exactitude and precision. A somewhat obvious example of this was the substitution of the clinical thermometer for the old and crude method of gauging a patient's tempera-

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