

and Shoes for Nurses. We propose to refer to these in detail in our next issue.

MR. J. BIFFEN, the Nurses' Trunk Maker, 77, Albany Street, N.W., is showing most convenient and up-to-date travelling equipages for nurses' use on long or short engagements. A very practical article is a combined week-end and hat case.

HOLLAND & SONS, 46, South Audley Street, Grosvenor Square, W.—This firm are showing their Patent Instep Support for tired and aching feet, which can be worn in any boot or shoe. There is no need to emphasise to nurses the importance of support for the plantar arch of the foot.

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.—THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING and other publications of professional interest supplied through the NURSING PRESS, LTD., will be on sale at Stand 10B, where "The History of Nursing," by Miss M. A. Nutting, and Miss L. L. Dock, published by Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, will also be on view.

#### REQUISITES ALL NURSES SHOULD NOTE

Among the firms whose specialities nurses should always keep before them are Messrs. Down Bros., 21, St. Thomas Street, S.E., from whom all surgical appliances and nursing requisites of the finest quality can be obtained.

A Disinfectant which has stood the test of time and competition, and still maintains its well-deserved popularity is Sanitas Fluid, supplied by the Sanitas Co., Ltd., London, E.

Benger's Food, Otter Works, Manchester, for infants, invalids and the aged is to be commended as highly nutritious and easily digested.

Fry's (Bristol) Malted Cocoa, a combination of Fry's pure cocoa, and Allen & Hanburys' Extract of Malt is a choice and nutritious beverage for sick and well.

The Lahmann Agency, 245, High Holborn, W.C., have introduced Dr. Lahmann's Vegetable Milk, which, added to cow's milk has the advantage of preventing the formation of curds in an infant's stomach, and foaming a flaky emulsion. The cotton wool underwear supplied by the firm is both delightful to wear and economical in use.

Nurses who suffer from tender and sensitive feet, or who need an arch support, should remember that Mr. Wm. M. Scholl, 1-4, Giltspur Street, is a foot specialist.

Of Nurses' Publishers Messrs. C. Griffin & Co., Ltd., Exeter Street, Strand, publishers of Laurence Humphry's "Manual of Nursing," and other favourite books on nursing subjects, should be borne in mind, as also Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, publishers of "A History of Nursing" (Nutting and Dock), "Practical Nursing" (Pope and Maxwell), and other well-known books.

The fashionable Silhouette portraits by Baron Scottford, 129, Regent Street, London, W., have only to be known to nurses to be most popular with them. The Baron at present has a stand in the Children's Welfare Exhibition, Olympia.

## ROYAL COMMISSION ON VENEREAL DISEASES.

At the twenty-ninth meeting of the "Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases" evidence was given by Sir Victor Horsley.

He said that the experience of the last twenty-five or thirty years led to the conclusion that these diseases were decreasing in virulence: it was his impression, however, that they were extremely prevalent. It was not possible to speak statistically of the amount of prevalence and the position in this respect would not be remedied until confidential registration of deaths had been adopted. This reform had been advocated by the British Medical Association for many years. The Association also put forward some ten years ago the proposal that in every coroner's district there should be an officer appointed whose duty it would be to make such post-mortem examinations as might be necessary to determine the exact causes of death. That proposition had relation not merely to ordinary deaths, but above all to the examination of still-born children; if it had been accepted the Commission would have been in possession of material relating to ante natal conditions revealing the exact prevalence of syphilis.

It was very desirable that this arrangement should be carried out with a view to the discovery of ante natal conditions, not merely syphilis, but other pathological states.

The Notification of Births Act under which still-births are notifiable should be compulsorily extended to the whole country.

Sir Victor was of opinion that the education of the public in regard to venereal diseases was enormously important. He thought that children should be instructed in sex matters. If the nature study part of elementary education were extended and every child taught the groundwork of hygiene, the health of the body, the instruction in sex matters could without injury gradually be brought into the mind of the child. So far as education related to reproduction in man it should be given individually and not as class instruction. In secondary schools children should receive full instruction. At the present time instruction was also necessary for adults. The teaching should be given by laymen; if it were in the hands of medical men it would be regarded as part of a medical mystery.

Sir Victor dealt at some length with the difficulty with which medical practitioners are frequently faced in public health matters by reason of the law of libel.

It was perfectly obvious, he said, that from the public health point of view a medical practitioner ought to be able to warn somebody who to his knowledge was likely to be infected with venereal disease, but under the law as it stood he would render himself liable to a libel action and would undoubtedly be ruined. A doctor ought to be able to state what he thought was the cause of a particular disease, but the information should only be given to people who had a right to demand it.

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