

figure did not represent the number of patients who had attended the hospital for syphilitic manifestations but only those who had been referred to the special department as suffering from some affection of the skin. Of the 1,853 cases of syphilis 925 were males and 928 females. Dr. Pringle thought that this apparent equality of incidence in the two sexes was due to the fact that men do not willingly attend hospitals during working hours, except for diseases which in their opinion threaten life or cause grave discomfort or pain. On the other hand anything causing disfigurement impelled women to seek medical advice.

Of the 1,853 cases of syphilis already mentioned nearly 24 per cent. were foreigners.

Dr. Pringle stated that he could not see his way to supporting or advocating any measure of compulsory notification of venereal diseases. The medical profession was, he thought, practically unanimously opposed to it, and even if made confidential, its effects upon the public would be to merely drive them to seek treatment from unqualified persons.

His experience both in hospital and private practice convinced him that much of the syphilis existent in England was of foreign importation. He believed that a considerable number of prostitutes left their own countries because they were unable to ply their trade there, and came over to England and spread the disease in this country. It was important that this matter should be further investigated and that steps should be taken to deal with it.

#### £1,500 DAMAGES FOR A NURSE.

A special jury in Mr. Justice Bailhache's Court, in the King's Bench Division, awarded £1,500 damages to Mrs. Beatrice Mary South, a professional nurse, of The Avenue, West Ealing, against Messrs. W. & G. Du Cros, Ltd., motor-cab and van proprietors, of Acton. Mrs. South, who is the widow of a stockbroker, was attempting to get to a tramcar when she was knocked down and run over by a motor delivery van, driven by a servant of the defendants on the wrong side of the trams. Her left thigh was fractured, and, Counsel said, there was no hope of the fracture ever being united. She might lose her leg.

#### EUCRYL.

We do not doubt that those nurses who, at various exhibitions, have been invited by "Eucryl" (61-63, Lant Street, Southwark, S.E.) to secure free samples, have been delighted with this preparation. Incorporated in an antiseptic toilet soap, tooth powder, tooth paste, ointment, or in one's bath, it is most refreshing, and we have great pleasure in directing the attention of our readers to its value. "Eucryl" possesses the great advantage of not scratching the enamel of the teeth. Further, it purifies the mouth and neutralizes that acidity which is so destructive to them.

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

### WOMEN.

About 120 members of the Society of Women Journalists enjoyed a most interesting "At Home," at Johnson House, Gough Square, E.C., on Saturday last, by the kindness of Mr. Cecil Harmsworth, M.P. The President, Miss Billington, received a very gay company of guests. This charming old house, now put into repair and decorated in eighteenth century style, was a delightful place for the gathering, and tea was arranged in the "Dictionary Attic," in which Dr. Johnson carried out his monumental work. The "co-operative" tea was a great success, one member giving the tea, another cream, or fruit, flowers, sandwiches, or lovely cakes of every description.

In moving a vote of thanks for the loan of the house, the President said Dr. Johnson was one of the first to recognise women journalists, and they could claim a special association with his work in Gough Square. For it was whilst living there that Johnson launched the "Rambler," of which 208 numbers appeared. Three issues were entrusted by him to women, namely, No. 30, by Mrs. Catherine Talbot, and Nos. 44 and 100, by Mrs. Elizabeth Carter. Admission to this historic house is now free, and we learn that old furniture of the period, articles specially associated with the Sage of Fleet Street, are being carefully collected, so that by and by the interior will contain many links with days which are no more.

At the meeting of the Representative Church Council, held at the Church House under the presidency of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, it was decided to give women the right to vote for and to sit in parochial church councils, but refused them admission to Diocesan Conferences. The opinions on these questions by the bishops, deans, and others were very illuminating.

The Dean of Canterbury was opposed to the granting of the franchise to women. A previous speaker had quoted Pericles as saying, "The less said about women the better." What Pericles had said was, "The less women say the better." He (the Dean) confessed that in public affairs he was entirely of Pericles's opinion.

The International Suffrage Alliance have had a busy time in London, Mrs. Chapman Catt, and Dr. Aletta Jacobs, who have been travelling round the world, studying the Suffrage question, came full of interesting knowledge. In China, where women helped the revolution and were promised the vote, there had been a great smashing of windows, the Chinese militants excusing themselves with the remark, "You all do it in Europe." The promised vote had been very sparingly awarded, and there had been extensive mortality among the ladies who led the movement!

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