

appointment as Lady Superintendent, of Dr. Steeven's Hospital, of a beautiful silver salver. Dr. J. B. Story, Senior Physician to the Hospital, made the presentation, and in a happy speech wished Miss Reeves all success in the future, although regretting her departure from the Eye and Ear Hospital. Miss Reeves gracefully expressed her thanks.

The nursing staff also presented Miss Reeves with a lovely silver coffee pot.

After the presentations, Miss Power, the Matron and the nursing staff entertained their visitors to a sumptuous tea, and a pleasant and friendly afternoon was spent.

Miss Helen Milne, who has held the position of Matron of the Cornelia Hospital, Poole, for twenty-five years, has been presented with a gold watch and a cheque for £230 by her friends and well wishers.

### THE PASSING BELL.

We deeply regret to record the death of Sister Mabel Francis, of the Registered Nurses' Society, from double pneumonia, following influenza contracted in the discharge of her duty.

Sister Francis was trained at the London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, W.C., and joined the staff of the Registered Nurses' Society over two years ago. She proved herself an excellent private nurse, much liked by her patients.

Wednesday, January 29th, was her last day on duty, and on Thursday afternoon she was, owing to the kindness of the authorities, admitted to the Homœopathic Hospital. Everything possible was done for her welfare, but she quickly developed the gravest symptoms and passed peacefully away at 8 o'clock on Sunday morning.

The funeral took place at Coxley, near Wells, Somerset, on Wednesday last. Amongst the wreaths was a beautiful one carrying out the badge of the Registered Nurses' Society in laurels with the letters "R.N.S." in crimson on a white ground, and another from the officers at Lady Wiener's Hospital at Luton Hoo.

Private nurses, during the epidemic of influenza, have been doing heroic work in caring for the patients, and by wise preventive precautions helping to stem the spreading of the disease. It is certain that every time a nurse goes to a case of this kind, of which science has not yet diagnosed the cause, she risks her life, without any flourish of trumpets, just as certainly as does her sister on active service, and if she falls, she falls as a soldier at the post of duty.

### POOR LAW CONFERENCE.

Nearly 300 boards of guardians have signified their intention to send delegates to the Central Poor Law Conference, which will be held at the Guildhall on February 18th and 19th, and the list is not yet complete. Lord Downham, formerly President of the Local Government Board, will preside, and the proceedings, which will be of an important character, will be opened by the Lord Mayor.

## THERAPEUTICS OF THE TIMES.

### MODERN ANTISEPTICS.

We have pleasure in directing attention to an extremely interesting and informing booklet on "Modern Antiseptics." It is the first of a series on "Therapeutics of the Times," to be published by Boots' Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Station Road, Nottingham, a firm which has successfully manufactured and placed on the market supplies of the synthetic and natural medicinal agents most of which, when war broke out, we obtained from Germany. In its effort to establish in this country the manufacture of fine chemicals the firm merits, and should receive, the support of every patriotic person. It is inconceivable that we should ever again be content to depend upon Germany for our supplies, nor need this cause any inconvenience when Messrs. Boots have proved that they can be produced by our own manufacturers of a standard equalling and indeed excelling the German varieties.

The war has, we are told, changed everything, and nothing more than antiseptic practice through knowledge gained by the scientific study of wound treatment; indeed, the evolution of new methods and improved antiseptics may justly be counted among the most vital developments recorded in the history of therapeutics. By long, patient investigation, and by the most careful co-ordination of the work of the chemist with that of the bacteriologist and the practical surgeon, the evils of wound infection have been overcome; so that innumerable patients at home, suffering from varied septic affections, may now benefit by the result of the researches undertaken more immediately to cope with the stern necessities of warfare. As the subject is of supreme importance, so is its story of deep interest. For its details we must refer our readers to the booklet which we have mentioned, which is issued for the service of all who are interested in medical progress.

### FREE LECTURES TO NURSES.

A course of six free lectures to Nurses on Venereal Diseases will be given at St. Paul's Hospital, 13A, Red Lion Square, Holborn, W.C.1, by Mr. Leonard Myer, F.R.C.S., Hon. Surgeon to Outpatients, commencing on Thursday, February 11th. The subjects are as follows:—

*February 11th.*—Introduction and anatomy of parts.

*February 18th.*—Pathology and early manifestations.

*February 25th.*—Early complications in both sexes.

*March 4th.*—Late complications.

*March 11th.*—Congenital or Hereditary Syphilis.

*March 18th.*—Marriage, Relations to Venereal Disease.

All nurses and members of the Allied Professions are invited.

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