

NURSING ECHOES.

Many well-known artists are at present engaged on pictures recording different phases of women's work for the Women's Section of the Imperial War Museum, amongst whom William Nicholson is painting Army nurses in the Peace procession saluting the Cenotaph.

In the House of Commons, on August 14th, Mr. Doyle asked the Minister of Health if, at the Northern Hospital, Winchmore Hill, London, certain wards are used for consumptive patients in all stages of the disease, the patients including men, women and children, while other wards are being used for children convalescent from scarlet fever and diphtheria removed from other infectious hospitals; if his attention had been drawn to the fact that the whole of the wards referred to are enclosed in one building, that the nursing staff is presided over by one matron, and that the nurses are employed indiscriminately in either infectious or tuberculous wards; whether, if he decides that the hospital should still house both classes of patients, steps will be taken to appoint a recognised expert to take responsible charge of the tuberculous wards; and if he will ascertain if there is sufficient and suitable space for recreation for sanatorium patients?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, Major Astor, replied that some blocks at the Metropolitan Asylums Board Hospital, Winchmore Hill, are used for the treatment of tuberculous patients, and other blocks for convalescent cases of acute infectious disease, but no ward and no block is used for more than one disease. The tuberculous patients are classified in their respective wards, according to the stages of the disease. A nurse engaged in nursing tuberculosis is not allowed to come into contact with cases of acute infectious disease. An entirely separate medical staff, with special experience in tuberculosis, under the general supervision of the medical superintendent of the hospital, is in charge of the blocks for the treatment of tuberculosis. Having regard to the class of case admitted to these blocks, the space available for recreation is sufficient and suitable.

An interesting account of a typical day in the life of an infant protection visitor is published in the current issue of "Maternity and Child Welfare." Here are two episodes:

"My next call is on Mrs. Belfort, a genial acquaintance of long standing, whose nurse-

infants, if not always as clean as they might be, manage to thrive and to be supremely happy. My inquiry as to how matters have gone since my last visit is met with the information that Polly, aged four years, was really very ill a fortnight ago, and was attended by the doctor. Mrs. Belfort cudgelled her brains for the name of the complaint, shook her head in despair, then with sudden enlightenment exclaimed, 'Tis the same, you know, as the musical instrument.'

With an intuition fortified by experience, I suggest 'catarrh.'

'Ah! that's it,' replied the dear woman; 'Guitar in the stomach'!

And bright-eyed Polly, now apparently in the best of health, gave me a proud smile, as who should say, 'Am not I a wonder-child?'

Annie is a child originally taken as a matter of business between strangers, and soon left on the foster parents' hands.

"When last I visited, Annie was just recovering from mumps, but a glance to-day shows that she has not only regained her normal health but more than her usual amount of high spirits, for I find I have broken in upon a family festival. This is in honour of the eldest son's demobilisation. With an apology for intruding on a meal, I suggest that I shall return after a visit elsewhere, for there is no need here to inspect the nurse-child's food. But I am hailed with the invitation from the husband in a tone which precludes offence: 'Dear me! Miss, do come in; we'll not eat you!'

Thus entreated, I enter the living-room, to find Annie in the place of honour, between 'Daddy' and 'Big Brother' in khaki, looking as though she knew herself, as I know her to be, the ruler of the household.

But with our absence of laws regulating adoptions, what is to happen if one day the actual but unnatural parent reappears to claim the child?"

Horrible details are given in a pamphlet by Professor Romer, of the University of Lwów, of the atrocities committed in the Ukraine (the Polish name for borderland, originally applied to the province of Kiev, and to the region south of Kiev, which was the borderland of the Polish republic, frequently threatened by Tartar invasion). Amongst others, several Red Cross nurses were arrested in Zamarstry-nów. They were cruelly beaten, the Red Cross signs were torn from them, and they were threatened with death. Such cases were very frequent. The Ukrainian soldiers say that it would be best to exterminate all the nurses.

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