

“VENEREAL DISEASE: ITS PREVENTION, SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT.”

A valuable and concise text-book on Venereal Disease, written by Mr. Hugh Wansey Bayly, M.C., is published by Messrs. J. & A. Churchill at a cost of 10s. 6d.

Though written primarily for “the student and general practitioner who have neither time nor opportunity to devote to the study of venereal disease,” this book should not be missed by the trained nurse, who should consider her equipment incomplete unless she has made a study of this most important subject.

The information is given in simple language which should make it easily grasped even by those who have very little or no previous knowledge of the subject. In addition, the book is well illustrated, and a study of the diagrams should prove most informative.

In the opening chapter on Prevention, the author says, “It is an intolerable and illogical anachronism that the most easily controlled and most wide-spread and, with the exception of tuberculosis, probably the most deadly of chronic infectious diseases, should be specially selected for exemption from regulations as to notification, segregation and enforced treatment.”

In this chapter the problem of prophylactic outfit is thoroughly discussed, and the author is of opinion that so far from its possession giving a false sense of security, it will be a continual reminder that irregular connections are a grave danger, and will be an ever-present danger signal. This is, of course, a debatable point.

The chapter on Syphilis in its three stages deals exhaustively with the characteristic symptoms, incidental to each, and it is important for the student to closely study the admirable and lucid tabulation of these many and varied manifestations.

The author points out that it is incorrect to group all lesions of the later stages as tertiary, as the secondary and tertiary stages frequently overlap and merge one into the other. The secondary stage, show the symptoms that are common to so many specific fevers—fever, headache, &c., and a succession of rashes. The tertiary lesions are degenerative rather than irritative in origin. Every organ and tissue in the body can be attacked in this stage. Minute directions are given as to the intravenous and intramuscular injections.

Gonorrhœa is described and dealt with in the same thorough and systematic manner. The author speaks strongly on the infection of young wives by their husbands.

He says: “It is a shame to our profession that so many men are told they are free from infection and are given permission to marry before any systematic, thorough and scientific examination has been made on which an opinion can be logically based. I consider, therefore, that the responsibility of the prevalence of inflammatory pelvic conditions in young married women is shared

equally between the doctor and the husband—indeed, in many cases, the doctor is the more to blame.”

The treatment of gonorrhœa for both sexes is described at length. The author comments on the fact that urethral-vesical irrigation and urethral dilatation are not nearly so frequently practised in women as in men, though equally important.

“Energetic treatment of urethra, cervix and Bartolin’s glands, when infected, is absolutely essential to cure, and vaginal douches alone are entirely valueless.”

A careful study of the text and diagrams of this volume should prove of immense value to nurses, who, without exception, should inform themselves as fully as opportunity presents of the physiology and treatment of these fell diseases. H. H.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

The Queen and Princess Mary are to pay a visit to Oxford on the last Friday of the term.

The first object of Her Majesty’s visit is to make a tour of the Women’s Colleges, in the welfare of which she is known to take a lively interest.

The Chancellor is expected to be at Oxford for the occasion, and the Vice-Chancellor hopes to present Her Majesty for the degree of D.C.L.

The “Occasional Paper” issued by the National Council of Women contains the following:—

From a School-Girl’s Essay on Man: “Man is what woman has to marry. He smokes and drinks, and never goes to Church. They both sprang from monkeys, but woman sprang the farthest.”

COMING EVENTS.

January 20th.—Meeting Central Midwives’ Board (Penal Cases), 1, Queen Anne’s Gate Buildings. 10.30 a.m. Monthly Meeting follows Finance Committee.

January 29th.—The Matrons’ Council Annual Meeting. By kind invitation of Miss Marsters, Superintendent Q.V.J.I., Paddington and Marylebone District Nursing Association, 117, Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale. 3 p.m.

A DONEGAL SONG.

My love goes singing
By Glenties river,
And all the blue west is athrob with his song;
The joy of his singing
Like dawn-dew is clinging
To harebell and heather while shadows lie long.

My love goes singing
Where curlews are calling
And solitude wanders by Maghera strand;
’Tis the joy of his singing
The wild sea is flinging
Where white flies the spindrift at th’ edge of the land.
From “An Elfin Quest,”
By Adina Green.

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