

Tea.—The same as breakfast.

Had it not been for the extra food brought in by the patients' friends "many more patients would undoubtedly have suffered gravely from 'senility' during the war, and the death-rate from 'senility' would have been further increased."

Dr. Lomax states that in most cases when medical officers ordered extra diet, such as milk puddings, cream and eggs for sick patients, these were simply struck off the list by the Superintendent without his even asking for details. Yet all this time, as has been shown, the Medical Officers were being supplied for their private consumption with an abundance of excellent food as well as with a pint of cream a day, and this cream was obtained by skimming the milk provided for the patients."

Want of space prevents our quoting further, and we refer our readers to the book itself. We do not believe that this asylum is typical of all, but we think that the book provides ample proof of the necessity for an official inquiry into asylum administration.

M. B.

THE PASSING OF SISTER NAOMI.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Sister Naomi, of the Community of St. Margaret's, East Grinstead, formerly Sister Superior of St. John's House, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, and President of its Nurses' League. When the St. Peter's Community retired from St. John's House, the members of the League felt deep anxiety as to its future, as it was at a time when the struggle for State Registration of Nurses was at an acute stage—the League of St. John's House Nurses had from the first nailed its colours to the mast, and had adopted the promotion of State Registration as one of its objects. The nurses rejoiced to find that Sister Naomi, when appointed, was a convinced supporter of State Registration; and, on the resignation of Sister Charlotte, founder and first President of the League, she succeeded to the Presidency.

Sister Naomi was trained at St. Thomas' Hospital, and before joining the Community at East Grinstead worked as a Queen's Nurse. Of an attractive and sweet personality, and with friendly feeling to both past and present members of St. John's House, she quickly gained their affection and respect. Always fragile, she succeeded to the work at a very anxious time with a diminished staff, owing to the number engaged in war nursing; the financial responsibility for its maintenance was very serious, and the constant air raids, of which Queen Square had its full share, made those in charge very concerned, both for its maintenance and for the safety of the household.

A few years ago the Council of St. John's House, acting, we believe, on Sister Naomi's advice, decided to terminate its long and honourable career as an independent institution, and handed

it over to St. Thomas' Hospital—the authorities of that hospital assuming the responsibility of paying the pensions due to retired members of the staff, a responsibility fully secured by the value of the House and its contents.

Sister Naomi was for many years a regular reader of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and not long since wrote, expressing her pleasure, not only at the way it kept her in touch with nursing affairs, but her appreciation of the high standard it placed before the nursing profession and its stimulating influence to high endeavour.

The members of the League of St. John's House Nurses will learn of her death with profound regret.

Requiescat in Pace.

THE LEGEND OF THE CROWN- IMPERIAL LILY.

Where'er, time past, the Master's footsteps led,
About the Father's work, through sylvan ways,
Each blossom by the wayside bowed its head
In reverence beneath that gentle gaze.

Only one lily, 'tired in lustrous green,
With tawny cups uplifted towards the sky,
Withheld, in lofty arrogance of mien,
The simplest homage as the Lord drew nigh.

Awile He paused and looked at her—alone
Unbending, 'mid His other creatures there
And—less rebuke than pity in his tone,
"Poor thing," He said; "Who fashioned you
so fair?"

Her kindred linger by the threshold still
With humbled bells drooped from the light away,
And one may see within them an he will
The tears of shame that glisten there to-day.

C. B. M.

We have received a most valuable letter from Miss J. B. N. Paterson on "Summer Diarrhoea," too late we regret for insertion this week.

COMING EVENTS.

September 20th.—League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses. Winter Lectures on Old London and Its Story, by Mr. Allen S. Walker: "The Tower of London and Its Story." Medical and Surgical Theatre, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, 8.30 p.m.

October 8th.—The Scottish Nurses' Club Extension Sale of Work, 205, Bath Street, Glasgow, 2 p.m.

October 12th.—The Matron-in-Chief and members Q.A.I.M.N.S. "At-Home," Wharnclyffe Rooms, Great Central Hotel, Marylebone. 4 to 7 p.m.

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