

- (3) The development of the moral-social ideals;
- (4) The special training for a vocation;
- (5) The not-to-be-forgotten 'training for leisure.'

"It is plain from such references that 'getting an education' means something more nowadays than merely learning how to earn a living or to develop one's particular abilities without regard to the individual's usefulness in the world. . . . We hear a great deal about 'social efficiency.' Indeed, so much is the expression used that it makes less impression than it should make in order to prod people to the effort of getting an education in the highest sense. Nevertheless, the constant setting forth of an ideal has its effect. Our Boy Scout movement has social helpfulness as its underlying principle of action. . . ."

"As soon as the nurse has a well-defined idea of education she is vitally concerned with the direction of her conscious forces. She finds out all that there is to find out about her working power. What she is able to make of herself depends upon this understanding of her conscious forces, plus the necessary training."

Two definitions of education are given, one by William James (in "Talks on Psychology"), who says that "Education cannot be better described than by calling it the organisation of acquired habits of conduct and tendencies to behaviour," and that by E. L. Thorndike (in "The Principles of Teaching"), who says that "Education should be considered, not as a moulding of perfectly plastic substances, nor as a filling of empty minds, nor as a creation of powers; but rather as the provision of opportunity for healthy bodily and mental life, of stimuli to call forth desirable activities in thought, feeling and movement, and of means for their wise direction, for the elimination of their failures and futilities, and for the selection of their useful forms."

So the book goes on showing how education may be carried on, on the lines of "Human Adjustment." Thus, "without being self-conscious, the nurse needs to think of the impression she makes. What is the effect of her habitual 'Good morning'? Does it brighten, does it sing of vitality and interest in life, or is it a dull, flat utterance, adding gloom where gloom may be? Too much stress cannot be laid upon the effect of the nurse's personality. Her 'nursing touch' is a stimulus with unlimited possibilities for desired reactions on the part of the patient. As the nurse studies her patient, noticing closely his responses to the smallest stimuli, she grows to understand her responsibility in directing properly the stimuli under her direct control. . . . It is fascinating to take over a neglected garden, to give it scientific care, and to watch the drooping leaves lift, the new buds sprout, the new life quiver through the plant life. How much deeper the thrill that comes from observing human life, responding to care, nursed back to health.

We have only space to mention the chapters on Instincts, Habits, Sensation and its Meaning, Taking things into the Mind, Responses of Patients, Putting Two and Two Together, Atten-

tion and Interest, Memory, How to Study, Thinking in Imagery, Reasoning, Feeling, Willing and Doing, Nursing Technic, and one in the Appendix on "The Nurse's Health"; but all will repay careful study.

The price of the book is 15s.—a high price for a nurse to pay, some will say. Perhaps, but values are relative, and 15 pieces of silver are, after all, a small price for a book that is worth its weight in gold.

M. B.

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## THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

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The Chairman of Westminster Hospital gratefully acknowledges the receipt of a £50 banknote, which has been found in the poor-box at the hospital. This is the second £50 note found in the hospital boxes during the past three months.

The Ministry of Health, it is suggested, may adopt a new line of policy under which the panel system would be abolished and payment per visit substituted.

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## COMING EVENTS.

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

*October 8th.*—Royal British Nurses' Association, Lecture on "The Development of Mind," by Miss Good. 194, Queen's Gate, S.W., 4 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.

*October 12th.*—Queen Mary's Maternity Home, Upper Heath, Hampstead. Laying of Foundation Stone by Her Majesty the Queen. 3 p.m. Tea for invited guests Cedar Lawn. 4 p.m.

*October 13th.*—Central Midwives' Board, Monthly Meeting. 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, S.W.

*October 13th.*—Society for Constructive Birth Control and Racial Progress: First General Meeting. Lecture Room, Hotel Cecil, Strand, W.C. 8 p.m.

*October 15th.*—Royal British Nurses' Association. Lecture, "An Evening with Kipling," by Miss L. Anderson Parsons.

*October 18th.*—Opening of Parliament.

*October 21st.*—Meeting of the East Lancashire Local Centre College of Nursing, Ltd.: Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will speak, by invitation, on the Rules framed by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales under the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919. Royal Infirmary, Manchester. 4.30 p.m.

*October 27th.*—Quarterly Meeting of the Matrons' Council. Claybury Mental Hospital, Woodford Bridge, Essex. 3 p.m.

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