

### THE PASSING BELL.

Many have been the appreciations of the character and work of Mr. Stephen Paget, F.R.C.S., whose death is so deeply deplored by numerous friends. But I think they would be incomplete if a trained nurse did not bring one sprig of rosemary (that's for remembrance) and a spray of laurel (that is for honour where honour is most due). For indeed in the course of a nursing career extending now for over forty years, I have never met a medical man more uniformly courteous to nurses, and appreciative of their work. Thus if a difficult case under his charge in hospital made a good recovery he was wont to say, "You must thank Sister, for you owe it to her." If results were disappointing he would remark, "What a responsibility it is to be a surgeon."

But it was not only in the wards that he was appreciated. Those who were privileged to hear his lectures to nurses could not fail to realise their distinction and charm, while their lucidity must surely have penetrated the dullest understanding. Of his contributions to the literature of the day, in biographies, essays, and scientific work, there are many who can appraise them with discrimination and expert knowledge. In the estimation of many his will be the gracious memory of a tender-hearted, unselfish, Christian gentleman.

S. R. N.

### LEGACIES TO NURSES.

Miss Alice Rachel Henriques, of West End Lane, Hampstead, N.W., left £400 to Nurse Kathleen Donaldson, her late father's Nurse.

Miss Katherine Edith Wilson, of Boscombe, Bournemouth, left £50 to Nurse Ellen Voller.

### AN INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMPETITION.

We are informed by the British Red Cross Society, 19, Berkeley Street, London, W.1, that the International Committee of the Red Cross has notified its intention of holding a Competition in Geneva in the autumn to adjudge the best type of the following for use in time of war:— (a) Stretcher; (b) Arrangement for carrying a stretcher in a railway carriage, aeroplane, carriage, ambulance, sleigh or boat; (c) Labels for wounded on the Field; (d) First Aid outfit to be carried on the person; (e) Identity discs.

The Competition, which will be judged by a special International Committee of experts, and for which prizes will be awarded, will take place during the autumn, 1926. All exhibits must reach Geneva by August 1st at latest, and packages should be addressed to:—Le Comité International de la Croix-Rouge, 1, Promenade du Pin, Geneva, Switzerland, and marked "*Specimens for the institution of the international study of ambulance material.*" This is necessary in order to avoid Swiss customs duty.

### NATIONAL BABY WEEK COUNCIL.

The Annual Report of the National Baby Week Council (117, Piccadilly, London, W.) states that in many respects the Council's campaign of 1925 was held to be the best since the first campaign, namely in 1917. Three new features rendered it conspicuous. Baby Sunday, July 5th, was the occasion of a Mass Meeting held in the Queen's Hall, London; the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley led to the Empire's Mother and Baby Competition, while National Baby Week saw the first Summer School of Maternity and Child Welfare. These three new phases of activity naturally tended to draw fresh attention to the object which the Council serves, namely, the welfare of mothers and little children, with the result that the Press activities in connection with Baby Week were extremely good.

During National Baby Week Professor E. W. Hope, M.D., Vice-President of the Council, broadcast on National Baby Week, on July 3rd, and the Viscountess Rhondda, Vice-Chairman of the Council, broadcast on July 9th, taking as her subject, "Imperial Baby Week."

### A JOY RIDE THROUGH CHINA.\*

We have received, with much pleasure, a copy of "A Joy Ride through China for the N.A.C." (Nurses' Association of China), by Miss Cora E. Simpson, R.N. Founder and Superintendent of Nurses, of the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing, Magaw Memorial Hospital, Foochow, Fukien, China, and now General Secretary of the Nurses' Association of China.

In her preface Miss Simpson writes:—"Books have been written on all subjects in China from the Great Wall to the description of the 'itch germ' but never before has anything ever been given to the public about this group who are fighting to bring health and happiness to China. That you may better understand the need for their services, the difficulties under which they have accomplished the impossible, and better know how to help and rejoice with them in the future days, this record is given."

Wonderful old China—well called by Miss Simpson the "Land of Golden Opportunity." China has "a written history dating back five thousand years. Away back in the dim ages of the past, when Abraham was busy in Israel, and when the pyramids were being built and all other great things happened, China was there."

"Many people," says Miss Simpson, "think a Hospital is a sad place. Not so in this land. Once an old woman, cold, ragged, hungry and sick came into our Hospital. She was bathed, cared for, and put to bed. When the rice was served she asked: 'If I get all I want will there be enough for the others, for I don't remember as I ever had enough to eat at any one time in my life.'

"She had been in the hospital less than twenty-four hours when the women in the Ward (all as ignorant as this one, some dozen of them) were talking about Heaven. This old lady was dozing comfortably in her bed after eating all she wanted, some one asked her:—

"What do you think about Heaven, Mother?"

"She replied: 'I don't know very much about it yet, I have never been here before, but I like it pretty well.'"

There is a saying that "God has ravished Earth and Heaven to make China beautiful," and so Miss Simpson evidently found it on arriving at the Margaret Williamson Hospital, Shanghai. She writes: "I shall never forget the wonder of that first day 'at home.' First the prayers when the singing sounded so good, and then the first meal consisting of rice, fried peanuts, dried fish, bean sprouts, mud snails, and tea. What more could one wish for? I have loved the Chinese food ever since and never yet have found a dish that I did not like."

### THE COMING OF THE N.A.C.

"China needed the N.A.C. but did not know it. With a written history dating back 5,000 years, with a country reaching from frozen Manchuria to sun-kissed Kwangtung, and from bustling Shanghai to beyond the dizzy snow-capped mountains of Tibet. China with her splendid walled cities, her pagodas, temples, and wonderful old bridges, with her winding rivers, majestic mountains, deserts, and plains, her flowers, wild and beautiful in their profusion, her birds, almost every variety known to mankind, her waving groves of feathery bamboo, her blue skies and glorious moonlight, her silks, lacquers, carved wood, jade and pearls, her hard working men, patient women, and adorable babies, what need did she have of the N.A.C.?"

"Here lived one fourth of the world's population, four hundred and fifty million people. Here were born one third of the world's babies, eighty per cent. of whom died before they were five years old. Here all the diseases known to the doctors' text-books—and many not yet written up—ran riot in the thousands of walled cities where a doctor or

\* Kwang Hsueh Publishing House, C445, Honan Road, Shanghai, and Oxford University Press, 11, Warwick Square, E.C.4.

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