

and quite beyond praise. Those of us who remember the poor little ragamuffins of fifty years ago rejoice to see the chubby rosey school children of to-day.

Satisfactory results of the work done in diphtheria prevention are noted in the annual report of Guy's Hospital Bacteriological Department just issued.

During the past year 70 cases attended the hospital's diphtheria carrier clinic, of whom 64 were children of school age. By the end of the year all these "carriers" had been discharged as free from Klebs Loeffler bacilli.

The report gives an account of the highly successful result of Schick testing and immunisation in the prevention of diphtheria as applied by the staff of Guy's.

All new nurses entering Guy's Hospital during the past 4½ years have been Schick tested, and if "positive" immunised. Before this test was instituted 18 cases of diphtheria occurred among the nurses in six months. During the 4½ years which have passed since the regulation came into force the total number of cases among the nurses has been only 18.

Great sympathy has been felt throughout the profession for Miss Gregory, the Matron of the Ealing and Chiswick Isolation Hospital, where a father shot his daughter, a young Probationer and then himself in her presence. Miss Gregory was injured in her attempt to prevent the tragedy and has been in hospital under treatment for some time. She was warmly commended for her courage at the inquest.

THOMAS HODGKIN.

This is an age of centenaries. One hundred years ago there appeared in the Transactions of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London, a paper which to-day is a classic in the literature of medicine, though at the time it attracted but scant attention: "on some morbid appearances of the absorbent glands and spleen." It is the first authoritative description of what is known as Lymphadenoma, an inflammatory enlargement of the lymph glands, spleen, and other organs, the causation of which remains obscure and which is universally fatal. Lymphadenoma is the Sphinx among diseases.

The author of the paper was one Thomas Hodgkin, a Quaker. A premature child, all his life he was never robust, though his energy was unquenchable. He was a perfect Latin and Greek scholar and spoke French, German and Italian fluently. Though a clever physician, his eccentricity hampered his success in practice. For he lacked worldly wisdom, especially in the sordid matter of £ s. d. The story is told that he once sat up all night with a very wealthy patient whom he mortally offended by filling up a blank cheque with the sum of £10. He added insult to injury by saying: "You do not look as though you can afford any more." Hodgkin delighted in missions of mercy. His fatal illness—dysentery—was contracted in Palestine in 1866, while relieving the miseries of the Jews in that country.

Hodgkin has found a monument more enduring than brass in the name "Hodgkin's Disease," which Sir Samuel Wilks, the historian of Guy's Hospital, piously gave to lymphadenoma in 1865. W. R. B.

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

Owing to lack of space this month the usual detailed report of the proceedings of the British College of Nurses is curtailed. In our next issue space will be found for a full report of the Annual Meeting which was a most successful gathering held on July 13th.

The Council Meeting.

The Sixty-eighth Meeting of the Council, was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Saturday, July 23rd. The President was in the Chair.

The National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of Great Britain.

A letter was received and considered from the Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, G.B.E., C.B., LL.D., Chairman, Executive Committee, British Red Cross Society, expressing the hope that a representative of the British College of Nurses would be appointed to serve on the National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of Great Britain.

The President explained the work it was proposed the Committee should undertake in connection with the Scheme for a "Florence Nightingale International Foundation." Miss A. M. Bushby, who had studied the life of Miss Nightingale so earnestly, was elected to serve on the National Committee.

Correspondence.

Further correspondence addressed to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was considered. It was decided to take no further action until a reply had been received direct from the Council instead of from a Standing Committee.

Election of Vice-President.

Miss A. M. Bushby was elected Vice-President of the College, Miss Cochrane's two years' term of office having expired.

The President thanked Miss Cochrane for her efficient help, and was pleased she would still remain a member of the Council. She also welcomed Miss Bushby as Vice-President, and looked forward to her help and support always so willingly given to the work of the College.

Both ladies made graceful replies.

The Standing Committees.

The following members were elected Chairmen of the Standing Committees:—

Education and Examination.—Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C.

Political, Economic and Legal Protection.—Miss M. Brey.

Social Schemes.—Miss G. Le Geyt.

Public Health.—Miss D. K. Graham.

History of Nursing.—Miss A. M. Bushby.

Finance.—Dr. Bedford Fenwick.

Election of Fellows and Members.

The applications for membership were approved and the candidates elected.

Financial Statement.

The President presented a satisfactory financial statement. £584 17s. 0d. had been received in Annual Subscriptions since the last meeting.

Classes on Administration.

Arrangements are being made to hold eight Administration Classes, limited to twelve, in the autumn and spring. The first visit will be made to the New Nurses' Home in connection with Charing Cross Hospital on September 28th, further fixtures will be announced next month.

Those who wish to attend these Classes should communicate as soon as possible with the Secretary, B.C.N.

Arrangements for French classes will also be announced.

Educational Grants.

Applications for Grants referred to the Education Committee and those recommended were approved.

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