

AMERICAN NURSING NOTES.

One thing we always admire in American Nurses is their long and grateful memories of their founders. Thus they maintain the Isabel Hampton Robb Memorial Fund, the Isabel McIsaac Loan Fund, the Delano, Fund, one in commemoration of Miss Anna Maxwell, and others. Therefore, not only do their outstanding works for the nursing profession receive due recognition, but their names are made known to the younger generations of American nurses.

Having, as an Hon. Member of the American Nurses' Association, known all these great women, we feel we must add our note of appreciation of American Nurses' loyalty to their leaders.

The American Nurses' Biennial Convention is taking place at San Antonio, Texas, from April 11th—15th. The Texas Nurses have been saving money for the last ten years to promote the success of the Convention, and they are ready for it.

The *American Journal of Nursing* states:—

"The brief but effective ceremony at which Stanislaw Rembski's portrait of Miss Nutting was presented to Teachers' College, where she had been a member of the faculty from 1906 to 1925, was conducted by Professor Emeritus David Eugene Smith. It brought together a group of distinguished educators and friends of Miss Nutting.

"In his graceful introductory speech, Professor Smith said: 'Upwards of twenty-five years ago a woman entered these halls, carrying a small bag containing four talents—not talents of silver or of gold, but talents of the spirit. The first of these was a new idea, and that is a wonderful thing in this world of ours. It was not the idea of training nurses—that was old and somewhat commonplace—but it was the idea of training teachers of nurses in a great school of education, and therein it was and is now filled with possibilities. The second talent took the form of genuine ideals, which must never be confused with mere ideas; and when the bag was opened these began to grow, and we soon realised that they were high ideals and inspiring ones. The third talent was that of successful experience in the first of the real universities of our country—Johns Hopkins—where she had already made a worthy name for herself as progressive, level-headed and resourceful. And the fourth talent was personality and culture—broad culture such as that which her colleague Sir William Osler possessed, the love of books, and the appreciation of the value of history and poetry and modern science.'

"Dean Russell emphasised the kindly personality and forceful acumen of Professor Nutting and pointed out that 'to the untold generations that lie ahead it will serve as an inspiration to all who care to walk in pastures new, who desire to break the road ahead, who serve as pioneers . . .'

"In accepting the portrait for the College, Cleveland E. Dodge, President of the Board of Trustees, said: 'When we think of the influence passing from her to students, and of those students in turn influencing and training others, it is impossible for us to measure the worth or the fruit of this woman's life. The Committee and the donors may be fully assured that this portrait will be appreciated not only by the present generation but in all the years to come.'

"In her report to the National Board of Directors of the American Nurses' Association, Janet M. Geister, Director at Headquarters, emphasised the need for a more equitable distribution of nursing service and a better understanding of the present-day problems. The report, in part, is as follows:—

'The blighting shadow of unemployment in the private duty field has hung over us all the year. In its acuteness, in the stark mental, emotional and physical suffering it produces, it almost dwarfs all other considerations. As we meet with groups of nurses, as we talk to many individual nurses, as we study our correspondence, the outstanding evil is not the threat to loss of food and shelter but the destruction of morale that results from the slow, cumulative perception of not being needed. Nursing is essentially a field which attracts people who want to be of use. Perhaps this is one of the reasons why the inability to be of use is so devastating mentally. This does not mean that we minimise the seriousness of the loss to the nurse of her own economic security, nor the seriousness of the day by day getting along without adequate nourishment. It means that over and above these physical privations shared by all unemployed persons, the nurse suffers peculiarly because she is denied an opportunity for emotional expression which she by the selectiveness of nursing needs.

'The greatest sufferer, we believe, is the nurse in the invisible bread line. Registrars say to us, "We do not know how some of our nurses manage to live and we are afraid to ask them." The nurse who is articulate is finding help in many places, but many nurses who want work, not charity, are suffering quietly in a way that perhaps we shall never know.'

PHYSIOLOGICAL FILMS.

"KODAK PRODUCTIVE FILMS."

"The Living Cell. The Blood and the Circulation."

The living cell was never more clearly demonstrated in its make-up and work, commencing with the Yeast reproduction under the microscope and leading up to higher forms of life, the Amœba, Hydra, etc., than by this film which shews the entire life cycle of these mysterious cells, and was recently shewn at the Lewisham Hospital.

The animal cell was demonstrated in the chick and its development shewn through a window in the shell, which, in a later state, revealed under the lens the small embryonic bird with its beating heart, which was most clear.

A rapid stride brought the audience present to man's development and in the most unbelievable way, his Arteries, Veins and Lymphatics were all seen, and the arterial circuit and the venous return demonstrated separately, the venous blood contrasting with the arterial as its fluid was white, thus shewing the Pulmonary Circulation and the blood passing through the heart of man and the wonderful valve action of that organ.

Diapedesis under high power lens shewed plainly the wriggling through the capillary wall of the Leucocyte, and also his enjoyment of his prey in Phagocytosis, and we hope the little frog used for this demonstration did not object to have his circulation filmed.

The lung cell was also clearly shewn, and the interchange of gases explained in detail by the film.

This form of teaching is surely the most impressive to the student, but it is essential that those present have had a good grounding of Anatomy and Physiology to enable them to understand the film, the Sister Tutor at this demonstration very ably gave a short explanatory preface preceding each film.

We congratulate the Lewisham Hospital and the Sister Tutor who were able to have this demonstration, and we hope the day is not far distant when all Major Training Schools will be in possession of a Kodascope and the marvellous teaching films of Physiology and Surgery that the Kodak firm have taken such trouble to produce.

Instruction by means of the eye is always impressive.

H. G. B.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)