

day: "La psychiatre prescrit, la Sœur appliqué; le médecin passe, et la Sœur reste dans le quartier. Ce sont ca deux situations radicalement différentes; la seconde est sans doute moins simple que la première."

For an account of the wonderful Family Colony for the insane at Gheel, and the legend of the way in which it came into existence in the sixth century, we must refer our readers to the book itself. It should not be curtailed. The several religious faiths of the patients are attended to by priests, a Rabbi, and a Protestant pastor.

At Santpoort, a well-known Dutch asylum near Haarlem, Miss Hankin found the work cure, which is copied from Dr. Simon's of Germany, in force. "The atmosphere of the whole place was cheerful. The making of lovely lace is taught to some of the younger patients. The chief object seems to be to get the patients interested in the sort of work best suited to their individual capacity."

Writing of the patients in an asylum near Paris, Miss Hankin remarks: "One has to be very careful to control one's thoughts, for they make a deeper impression than spoken words. I filled my heart with sympathy and love for them, spoke to them as if they were normal, and absolutely eliminated, I think, all feelings of fear or suspicion, except in three or four, who kept apart from the others." It is a remark which gives one food for thought.

In conclusion, Miss Hankin describes this work of the Religious Sisters in Belgium, Holland and France as "truly wonderful." She agrees with Miss M. V. Dunlop as to the importance for those responsible for the physical care of a mental patient, and still more those in close affinity with him, to be very careful as to the nature of their own mental states, as "every despondent thought and feeling must have a bad effect through the sub-consciousness on his physical condition."

She approves of the system in force in Copenhagen, Norway and Sweden whereby all mental hospital nurses have their three years' general training first. "They are not accepted until 21, so that no mental hospital nurse enters an asylum under 24 years of age. In England we allow young girls of 18, still going through the strain of adolescence themselves, to go direct into a mental hospital. Is not the strain too great? Why is it that in these asylums nursed by Religious Sisters abroad that there is such a high percentage of cures? Is it not due to the love and compassion of these devoted, often middle-aged and elderly Sisters? After all, what an insane patient needs is a friend, and love, more love, and yet more love.

MARGARET BREAY.

#### WHAT TO READ.

##### BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS.

"The Turning Point." Three Critical Years. Maurice Paleologue.

"H. M. Stanley." Frank Hird.

"The Diary of Thomas Crosfield, M.A." Selected from MS. in Queen's College Library. Frederick S. Boas, M.A.

##### FICTION.

"Enter Napoleon." Somerset de Chair.

"We, The Accused." Ernest Raymond.

"Laurell'd Captains." George R. Preedy.

"Death in the Clouds." Agatha Christie.

"The Fury." Gerald Bullett.

##### TRAVEL.

"Persia." E. A. Merritt-Hawkes.

"Men and Gods in Mongolia." Henning Haslund.

##### HISTORY.

"Varennes. The Flight of Louis XVI." Cesare Giardini.

"At the Court of Queen Elizabeth: the Life and Lyrics of Sir Edward Dyer." Ralph M. Sargent.

"The New America," H. G. Wells.

"Catherine the Great," Gina Kaus.

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

The Institute of Medical Psychology, of which the Duke of Kent is President, has received £100 as a contribution from the proceeds of the display of the Duke's wedding presents at St. James's Palace.

Women delegates to the British Commonwealth League which recently met in London requested a standing committee to organise a deputation to the Prime Minister to ask him to instruct members of the British delegation to the League of Nations to give support to an international treaty for equality of women's status. A demand was also made that the principle of equality for women should be included in the Indian franchise proposals.

According to *The Times*, "The strong protest made by the Pope recently against the inclusion in the agenda of the fourth International Hospitals Congress of the subject of sterilisation and eugenics has had an immediate result. It was decided at the final plenary session of the Congress that the offending item, which had been deferred to a future Congress, should be excluded from the next agenda."

"A group of Dutch physicians presented a motion protesting against the action of two German doctors who were accused of having taken advantage of the position as delegates to conduct propaganda on behalf of the German ideas about sterilisation, and asking that the topic should be excluded from the programme of the next Congress. Vigorous support came from the Spanish and French representatives, and the motion was accepted."

The Roman Catholic Church is strongly opposed to sterilisation and birth-control. It would appear, therefore, that German psychology was at fault in pressing this question in Rome.

#### "O DOMINE DEUS."

O Domine Deus, speravi in Te!

O care mi Jesu, nunc libera me!

In dura catena, in misera poena, desidero Te.

Languendo, gemendo, et genuflectendo,

Adoro, imploro, ut liberer me!

O Lord my God,

I have trusted in Thee;

O Jesu, my dearest one,

Now set me free.

In prison's oppression,

In sorrow's obsession,

I weary for Thee.

With sighing and crying,

Bowed down as with dying,

I adore Thee, I implore Thee, set me free!

Attributed to Queen Mary of Scots, by tradition. Translation by Swinburne.

#### WORD FOR THE MONTH.

Joy's a subtil elf

I think man's happiest when he forgets himself.

#### COMING EVENTS.

July 19th.—Bristol Royal Infirmary. Reunion and Garden Party. Matron and Nursing Staff at Home. Lady Vernon Wills Cup Tennis Finals. Nurses' Missionary Stall. 3—7 p.m.

July 20th.—British College of Nurses. Council Meeting. 39, Portland Place, London, W. 2.30 p.m.

July 24th.—Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service. Tennis Tournament, Uxbridge. 2.30 p.m.

July 26th.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. 20, Portland Place, London, W. 2.30 p.m.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)