

The interest in prisoners appeals to those of us with a free spirit. For instance, we once knew a Matron who kept a lark in a cage on the wall above her front door! It sang, indeed, yes—but with so heart-rending a note that though it took many moons to perfect the plot—*one morning the cage was empty!*

RECRUITS FOR NURSING.

Miss E. M. Tanner, President of the Association of Head Mistresses, writes to *The Times* from Roedean School, under the heading "Recruits for Nursing," and expresses pleasure that the Minister of Health intends to appoint a committee to inquire into the recruitment and training of nurses for the sick, as the subject has for some time been one of deep concern to her Association. It will be remembered that the Association of Head Mistresses gave evidence before the *Lancet* Commission, and its suggestions did not meet with the approval or support of the elected nurse members of the General Nursing Council—and that the nursing profession, as a whole, were strongly opposed to the policy of the teachers, which provided for instruction not necessarily of a professional nature.

We asked at the time, "Who is going to pay?" and concluded that as usual it would be the nurses.

Miss Tanner disapproves of a number of colleges for would-be nursing recruits, and adds: "Public money could be more economically used by the granting of bursaries to enable girls who have passed the school certificate examination to stay on for two years' further work in their schools, the majority of which are already well equipped for scientific study."

This may be, but such schools are not equipped with patients—and we registered nurses claim that scientific and clinical teaching should proceed hand in hand.

AUSTRALIAN NURSES DELIGHTED.

"Halsted," in an interesting article in the Australian press, records that members of the nursing profession in Australia have been delighted to learn by cable from London that the Australian Nursing Federation has been admitted as a full member of the International Council of Nurses. The news was cabled to Melbourne by Miss Jane Bell, the Victorian representative at the recently concluded Congress of the Council in London, and was in turn telegraphed to Miss K. Yeates, secretary of the West Australian branch of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association. In June, Miss Yeates attended a national conference in Melbourne, at which all the Australian States reached an agreement under which negotiations for their federation were finalised.

OUR GREAT LEADERS ARE PASSING.

With the death last month of Miss Chrystal Macmillan, there passes one more of the ardent advocates for improved status for women, including the State Registration of Nurses. Highly educated, she graduated M.A. and B.Sc. with first-class honours in mathematics and natural philosophy at Edinburgh University. She was called to the Bar by the Middle Temple in January, 1924.

When educating the National Council of Women in the need of statutory education for nurses during the "thirty years' war" Chrystal Macmillan with her logical mind was a keen advocate and had little patience with professional "antis."

The memorial service at St. Clement Danes, Strand, was attended by a most representative congregation of women.

These great leaders are passing to their rest, having by their courage enriched the whole world.

EARTH BURIAL A LUXURY.

Lord Horder delivered a presidential address to the International Cremation Congress recently held at the Guildhall. "Earth burial," he stated, "has become a luxury that we cannot afford."

Cremation, said Lord Horder, offered itself as the only practical alternative to the prevailing system of burial, a system which was wasteful of ground, pagan in its perpetuation of the fetish of the physical body, criminal in its slipshod death certificate to be given without the doctor having seen the body, offensive in its subjection of the body to the revolting processes of putrescence and decay, menacing to the public health in the potential danger of infection, which clings to the soil, and a reproach to our claims to culture and enlightenment.

Alas! is it as bad as all that? We just love our village grave gardens, where aching hearts find solace in honouring their dead—without this solace our village folk would be poor indeed.

MEDICAL WORK IN LABRADOR AND NORTHERN NEWFOUNDLAND.

We regret to learn that an increased loss on the very beautiful calendar hitherto issued in aid of the Grenfell Association of Great Britain and Ireland, forbids the 1938 publication, and in its place specially designed Christmas cards are being issued. A leaflet with a sample card of each design is very attractive, the Labrador dog-team is an excellent etching, the pen sketch is by Sir William Grenfell himself.

Picture Post-cards of the Labrador.

Packets of six; Oil Facsimile views, 1s. each.

Scenes with Sir Wilfred Grenfell, in sepia, 2d. each.

Labrador Huskies, in sepia, 2d. each.

Various scenes in black and white, and sepia, 1d. each.

Further particulars and copies of this leaflet may be obtained from: The Secretary, Grenfell Association, 66, Victoria Street, S.W.1. In Scotland particulars may be obtained from: The Hon. Mrs. John Scott Maclay, 21, Bothwell Street, Glasgow.

The Grenfell Association has done very fine work for the Empire. Remember it at Christmas.

INGRAM'S "ECLIPSE" HOT-WATER BOTTLE.

Popular with Patients Everywhere.

When the chilly evenings and long winter nights "set in," patients will be grateful for the warmth and bedtime comfort of an Ingram's "Eclipse" Hot-water Bottle. The "Eclipse" is strongly made of extra durable red or drab Para rubber, and possesses the Ingram's patent stopper and reversible washer—comprising two washers in one. Reliable, long-lasting and British made, the "Eclipse" is sold at good chemists shops everywhere, in four sizes—4/6 to 7/6. As dependable as the other well-known "Ingram" products.

The danger of a bottle which is made of rubber, attractive in appearance, but unreliable in use, cannot be too strongly emphasised, and we advise nurses always to protect their patients by insisting that they use Ingram's "Eclipse" Hot-water Bottles.

WHERE TO BUY CHRISTMAS CRACKERS.

The Christmas Cracker Sale on behalf of Queen Charlotte's Hospital, again organised by Mrs. Cecil Raphael, will be open at 45, Brook Street, W., from October 12th until Christmas Eve. Nowhere can a finer selection of crackers be bought, and to realise that this wonderful hospital will benefit is an added satisfaction.

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