

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.—“The Nurses’ Textbook,” by Esther Fisher.

Books, “Surgical Instruments and Appliances.” The “Nation’s Health,” reprint from *The Times*.

Mrs. Wates.—Flowers.

Miss M. R. Angel.—Flowers.

#### DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Council be held on Saturday, December 18th, at 2.30 p.m.

#### OTHER BUSINESS.

##### TO CONSIDER PENSIONS.

1. *Application Form for College Pensions.* The President placed before the Council the Application Form for College Pensions drawn up by the Trustees, which was unanimously approved.

2. The Application for a Pension was received from a Fellow since 1926, and after considering her case the Council agreed to recommend the applicant as a deserving case for a College Pension.

The Meeting then terminated.

#### OBLIGATION.

Miss Marion Turner Durward, Member, attended and took the Obligation and was welcomed into the College by the Council with whom she took tea.

#### PRESENTATION OF NIGHTINGALE BRICK.

At the close of the Meeting Mrs. S. P. Hennelly, who before her marriage fully qualified as a nurse at St. Bartholomew’s Hospital, and who for many years had been interested in public work in New Guinea and Australia, attended personally and was presented with a “Nightingale Brick,” as a gift to the Fremantle Public Hospital, Western Australia.

Mrs. Hennelly expressed great pleasure on receiving the “Brick” which she would convey to Fremantle, as she was returning there in a few weeks’ time.

She took tea with the Council and gave them graphic and most interesting information on Nursing and Social Work in Australia, and expressed great pleasure at the recent affiliation of the Australian Nurses’ Federation with the International Council of Nurses.

#### LECTURE ON CHOLERA.

Mr. W. E. Cooke, F.R.C.S.I., on November 30th delivered a most comprehensive Lecture on “Cholera,” when a large and attentive audience greatly appreciated the wide field of instruction imparted by a Lecturer who is so far travelled, and who has had first-hand knowledge of Cholera in India. It is hoped to publish this Lecture in a future issue.

#### FIXTURES.

December 18th.—Monthly Meeting of the Council, at 2.30 p.m.

#### AT LAST!

At last action has been taken by the Church. The Bishop of Winchester in the House of Lords called attention to the continued high rate of casualties on the roads and asked the Government what further steps they proposed to take to reduce the number of these accidents.

The Right Rev. Prelate said that on an average there were 20 persons killed and 600 injured on the roads every day. Annually there are 6,000 killed on the roads and over 200,000 injured. In the 10 years ended December of last year, 66,000 people were killed and nearly 2,000,000 were injured on the roads.

The figures were nothing less than appalling. A Select Committee to consider possible means of reducing the casualties was accepted on the part of the Government.

## THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

### INDUSTRIAL RHEUMATISM COSTS THE COUNTRY SOME £17,000,000 EVERY YEAR.

SIR KINGSLEY WOOD ON A “CRUEL ENEMY OF MANKIND.”

#### NEW ARTHRITIS UNIT FOR STUDY AND TREATMENT.

Sir Kingsley Wood, the Minister of Health, recently laid the foundation stone of the new Arthritis Unit at the Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth, London. The Research Laboratory associated with the Unit has been provided by the Empire Rheumatism Council, and the Arthritis Unit is the first of its kind to be established in this country.

Sir Kingsley Wood said rheumatism was a great scourge. The number of deaths directly attributable to the disease was small, but the suffering and misery caused by it was considerable, and the economic consequences were most serious. One-sixth of our industrial invalidism was due to rheumatism. Estimates made some little time ago showed that the time lost from rheumatic diseases represented a total incapacity of 5½ millions of weeks and the cost to National Health Insurance funds was over £5,000,000 a year. If account was also taken of wages lost on account of the disease the annual cost of industrial rheumatism was some £17,000,000 of money.

Unfortunately, our climate, often cold and damp, was a predisposing cause, and Great Britain occupied an unenviable position in this respect. Until recently, arthritis had been regarded as “an act of God”—something to be deplored, haply to be mitigated, but never, alas, by any chance to be prevented. Increasing attention was being paid to both rheumatism and arthritis to-day, and though the cause or causes of chronic rheumatism still remained obscure, to-day much could be done to shorten invalidism and to alleviate suffering. There were three weapons against the disease—the Physical Treatment Clinics, the Arthritis Units, and the Spa Hospitals. This new Arthritis Unit marked a step forward in the direction which it was so necessary unceasingly to pursue—the provision of facilities for the study and treatment of arthritis. The Unit would provide beds for research in the early stages of the disease as well as prolonged investigation of each case by a team of workers and treatment under good conditions. Sir Kingsley hoped that when, as he believed, further research would mean further advance against this cruel enemy of mankind, it would be possible to make practicable forms of treatment available to all sections of the nation.

#### DENTAL CLINIC ON WHEELS.

A novel medical unit was recently exhibited at the All-Union Institute of Experimental Medicine in Moscow. It is known as a “dental clinic on wheels,” and was built at the suggestion of Mr. Miryatinsky, director of the Leningrad Stomatological Institute. Mounted on a ZIS-5 chassis, the clinic constitutes a fully-equipped dental surgery, containing a desk which can be converted into a washstand, cupboards for dental instruments, which can be sterilised on the spot, a drilling machine, X-ray apparatus, medicine cabinets and wash-basins. The dental chair can also be converted into an operating table. The staff consists of a dentist, nurse and driver. The dental clinic on wheels is intended for use in rural areas without adequate dental services. Fifty similar clinics are to be built next year.

These Clinics will be welcome in the rural areas, for dental trouble, if neglected, may cause agonising pain, with resulting incapacity for work. In addition it is the cause of much ill health.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)