

This lecture was one of the most comprehensive we have ever had on any subject, and it has been impossible to give it in full detail. For those who are interested in the subject of high and low blood pressure, however, we would recommend Dr. Halls Dally's book on Blood Pressure (published by Faber & Faber, price 3s. 6d.) which goes, in great detail, into the whole subject from the nurses' point of view. It contains a great amount of most valuable information on a subject which sometimes receives too little attention in a nurse's general training, and yet it is one in which many of us are interested.

Tonosillograms showing (a) the normal range of arterial pressure, and (b) different conditions of pressure in pathological cases were passed round the audience.

ENGAGEMENTS.

We have to announce the engagements of three Members of the Association, all of whom are, or have been until recently, members of our private staff, and whose weddings will take place during the Spring or in the early Summer. Miss Margaret Campbell is marrying Dr. John Keith Cunningham, M.D., of Wellington, New Zealand; he is at present studying medicine in England. Miss Marjorie Chappell is to marry Mr. R. E. Way, who is in the Civil Service and recently returned from Singapore. Miss Evelyn M. Swann will marry Mr. Joseph Watson Fox, of Park Hill Road, Hampstead. We offer to them all our very best wishes for their happiness.

LEGACY.

The late Miss Grace Anderson, M.R.B.N.A., has left to the General Purposes Fund of the Association the sum of £500 free of legacy duty. Miss Anderson died in August last. She was well known to many Members of the Association as she worked in the office for several years and afterwards was a very frequent visitor at the Club.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

The Executive Committee will, at its next Meeting, make arrangements for the forthcoming election of Members to the General Council of the Corporation in order to fill vacancies arising under Bye-law XVII. We shall be glad to receive from Members the names of those whom they would like to see elected, so that their names and addresses may be placed on the ballot papers. Only those who are Members of the Association are eligible for election.

We would remind the members that under Bye-law VIII, all membership subscriptions fall due on 1st January of each year and it simplifies very much the work at headquarters if this Bye-law is observed.

FIXTURES.

On Wednesday, the 16th instant, at 3 p.m., we are to have a lecture by Dr. Yellowlees, O.B.E., F.R.C.P., M.D., on Psychological Factors in General Nursing, and we expect to have a large audience to listen to what this distinguished authority on Mental Diseases has to say to us. The subject is one likely to prove valuable to nurses, both in professional and in everyday experience. Miss Macaulay, O.B.E., S.R.N., R.M.N., Matron of the Kent County Mental Hospital, Maidstone, will take the chair.

Our "month's good deed" for the Helena Benevolent Fund is to take the form of a whist drive on Friday, the 25th instant, at 8 p.m. The tickets for this will be two shillings each, inclusive of refreshments.

On Thursday, the 31st instant at 3 p.m., Miss Macdonald will lecture on "The Ancient Order of St. John of Jerusalem," and we have arranged that on the 5th of April "The Ramblers" shall visit the Headquarters of the Order at Clerkenwell.

A series of six Lecture-demonstrations on Anti-air-raid Precautions will commence at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, the 15th instant, and will continue over the following five Tuesday evenings. Will those who desire to join the Class kindly communicate with the Secretary?

EXHIBITION OF 17TH CENTURY ART.

Several members have expressed much appreciation of the enjoyment which they experienced from the privilege-tickets which we obtained for them, for the Exhibition of 17th Century Art, at the reduced rate of one shilling each, although, owing to the limitations of time, few were able to take advantage of them to the extent they would have liked. The privileged ones are those who can go again and again to such an exhibition provided that they are able to *experience* beauty as well as to *gaze* upon it; only through the ability to experience it, as against merely looking upon it, can beauty have an effect in bringing harmony and health, for mind and body alike, to those who are harassed or perhaps even ill under the stress of modern conditions of life. Earlier ages of culture had a far more intense feeling for beauty than that which exists at the present time. Indeed beauty has become almost a kind of abstract idea in an age determined, or so it would appear, to undervalue it, an age of machinery and perpetual hurry that allows no time for the experience of beauty and overlooks it the more readily because the foundations of beauty belong to no earthly reality. Aristotle has described beauty as the gift of God but still better from a psychological standpoint, is the quaint description given by Plato: "A soft slippery thing and therefore of a nature which easily slips in and permeates the soul."

Once in a gallery in the ancient, chartered and now half-forgotten town of Colmar in Alsace we met a young man who reminded one of nothing so much as some travelling scholar in the middle ages. He came up courteously "to help us to find the best pictures," and we proceeded first to the famous "Grunewalds" (named from a neighbouring district because, until quite recently, the name of the 14th century artist who created them was unknown). One after another of the subtleties, the perfections and the "imaginations" in these sixteen pictures our companion pointed out, there were comparisons and references to many old Masters and it seemed as though the whole history of paintings were an open book to this wanderer in the gallery with its fine collection of very old paintings.

Once we made the remark to him: "Of course you are a painter?" "No," came the somewhat arresting reply, "I am a doctor of law but *one must have something beautiful in life* and I find it in old masterpieces. Whenever I can manage to take a holiday I travel to where I may find some."

Here indeed was one who could really experience beauty and assess its value as an essential factor in life. The hours we spent in the gallery at Colmar remain in memory like a new-discovered parish of the infinite, in the kingdom of art, and the lesson of a single sentence that fell from the lips of one of its travelling scholars points to one important aspect of the value of those opportunities that such an exhibition as that just closing gives to those who can avail themselves of them.

194, Queen's Gate,
London, S.W.7.

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

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