

PROFESSIONAL REVIEW.

"THE NOSE, EAR AND THROAT FOR NURSES AND DRESSERS."

"The Nose, Ear and Throat for Nurses and Dressers," by Michael Vlasto, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., a second edition of which has recently been published, is a book which many nurses will note with much pleasure, for it treats of a subject of which many nurses know little, and yet one which requires the greatest care and skill.

The author says in his introduction to the first edition, that a nurse who while undergoing her general training is allocated duties in the throat department of a general hospital, feels, as a rule, that she has come up against something totally different from any other hospital experience. The room is usually in semi-darkness. The surgeons are examining their patients by artificial light. The nurse is called upon to carry out duties with which she is probably totally unfamiliar. Some of her difficulties will be smoothed away by the Sister. Nevertheless, nurse will pay a heavy toll in patience before acquiring that knowledge which will make her work a pleasure.

Nevertheless, the nurse who has the opportunity of this instruction is to be congratulated.

The book, which is well printed and has numerous illustrations, is published by Faber & Faber, 24, Russell Square, W.C.1, price 7s. 6d.

"PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF MEDICAL NURSING."

A very useful book under the above title, the author of which is Victor Knapp, M.D., Assistant Attending Physician, Monmouth Memorial Hospital, Long Branch New Jersey, Lecturer in Medical Nursing, Monmouth Memorial School of Nursing, is published by Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and Bedford Street, Strand, London, W.C. It is designed to give the nurse who has just begun her education a good foundation in those aspects of medical science which she needs to become a proficient member of her profession.

Miss Lilian M. Thompson, R.N., Superintendent of Nursing and Principal of the School of Nursing at the Monmouth Memorial Hospital, in commending the book states that the author, a successful teacher himself, makes the subject of vital interest, and includes in it only that material which is within the grasp of the student nurse and which she needs to know. The nurse using this book will complete her course with a thorough understanding of the physical and mental effects of each condition of what she needs to observe and record about the patient and the principles involved in the nursing care which she will be called upon to give. Both as to content and arrangement of units the book meets the recommendations made by the Curriculum Guide for Schools of Nursing.

The price of the book is \$3.

DENTISTS AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

A Dental Emergency Committee which has been set up by the Minister of Health in conjunction with the Dental Organisations has arranged for the establishment of a Register of Dentists who are willing to volunteer for national service in wartime. This Register is being compiled on the basis of replies made by dentists to a questionnaire which has already been circulated to them by the Dental Organisations.

Its object is to secure that the services of the profession will be used to the best advantage in an emergency.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

Every Sunday we read the article by "Pandora" in the *Sunday Times* with very special pleasure from the pen of a very sympathetic lady without doubt. Seldom has she a word of adverse criticism, but we sympathised with her criticism of the powers that be on April 2nd.

"At the present time there are," she writes, "a number of questions which seem to be in the minds of the majority, and although we ask them we receive no satisfactory replies.

"For example, in the matter of National Service we ask when we are to be told clearly where we are most needed. When we are to cease feeling that it is rather vulgar to tell what Great Britain can do and does, while the other nations are dressing their shop windows with skill and colour.

"There are many other things we ask, and sometimes the answers discourage us, and sometimes there are no replies at all. One grieved to read the other day of the five thousand enthusiastic young women who enrolled in the Land Army and were told that at the present time it was not feasible to train them—or words to that effect. One grieves to know of the enthusiastic people who call at town halls and such places, and are discouraged by a pompous clerk, or by letters evidently written by someone tied up tightly in red tape.

"Most official bodies should be given a short course in polite letter writing to the volunteer, and as I am feeling captious I would suggest that not enough attention is paid in public offices to the person who answers inquiries and is in close touch with the public.

Flat Problems.

"Last week I read that the Government will deal with protection for flat-dwellers. One of the questions with which air raid wardens in flats have to cope is, 'What is being done in this building to protect us?' What is one to reply? We hear that employers are to arrange for their own people's protection, and there are very modern flats with air raid shelters and all the modern ideas about shelter in time of danger. But what about the average block of flats? Are landlords to be compelled to do something to protect their tenants, and, if not, what on earth are these people to do, beyond pasting strips over their windows and taking other precautions against flying fragments of glass and perhaps arranging a gasproof room, if that is possible?

"Another question which many people are asking is where and how they are to live if they are told to evacuate in time of danger? Many are elderly and delicate and ought to be out of London, but if they have flats or houses on lease they cannot afford to take others elsewhere. Incidentally, the loneliness and misery of being uprooted will be very great—greater than in any other war—but there will be no time to consider such things if the worst ever happens. Yet what unhappiness war brings to those who have lost their recuperative powers as well as their health, and had hoped for a quiet, peaceful old age among their own friends and their own possessions. The young will always find Hope in the bottom of the box, the old bewilderment and disillusionment."

At a recent meeting at the Mansion House, Mr. Herbert Morrison, M.P., Leader of the London County Council, said the Council set out to recruit 30,000 members for the auxiliary fire service. On March 25th the number recruited was 21,440. Since then there had been 727 more recruits. The volunteer ambulance service presented no such pleasing picture. The Government had set the Council a difficult task—to raise 17,000 recruits who must practically all be

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