

"THE BABY OF TO-DAY."*

"The Baby of To-day," in its seventh edition, written by Mrs. J. Langton Hewer, S.R.N., S.C.M., is a useful little booklet for the girl in training as a nursery nurse, as a guide in the management of baby from his birth to the toddler age.

Baby has to be educated gradually to take up his new duties, some of which should develop into good habits:—(1) To breathe properly; (2) to keep himself warm; (3) to digest food; (4) to excrete waste; (5) to develop his defences against the evil effects of germs."

Pupils are shown how to discriminate between essentials and non-essentials in baby's wearing apparel.

A chapter describes suitable food for baby from birth to 2½ years of age. A guide is also given concerning suitable clothing for the different seasons of the year; and the necessary equipment for a young baby's bed.

A chapter is devoted to cleanliness "(a) of air and surroundings; (b) of food; (c) of body; (d) of clothes, both day and night."

Baby's weight, sleep and exercise are also dealt with; and the means of the formation of good habits are adequately described.

The author impresses upon the pupil that "the atmosphere surrounding a very young child should be one of quietness, love and routine"; and her last word in the booklet is "do not forget that in becoming an expert in the care of 'the baby of to-day,' you are working for the future to secure for our country AI citizens in mind as well as body, for 'the child is father to the man.'"

WHAT TO READ.

MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

- "The Man who Killed Lincoln." Philip Van Doren.
- "When I was a Boy." Sir Ian Hamilton.
- "Edmund Burke: A Life." Sir Philip Magnus.
- "A Diary of the French Revolution (1789-1793)." Gouverneur Morris.
- "King's Nurse, Beggar's Nurse," the Autobiography of "Blackie," Sister Catherine Black.
- "Life's a Circus." Lady Eleanor Smith.
- "Such Were These Years." Ruby Cromer.

FICTION.

- "No Wind of Blame." Georgette Heyer.
- "The Man in Steel." Storer Clouston.
- "It is Not Safe to Know." Mrs. Baillie Reynolds.
- "The Abbot's Heel." Neil Bell.
- "And Call it Accident." Mrs. Belloc Lowndes.
- "Young Doctor." Elizabeth Seifert.
- "Bridge of Wonder." Margery Lawrence.

TRAVEL.

- "Dragon Rampant." Robin Hyde.
- "China at War." Freda Utley.
- "Catalin France." Basil Collier.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- "The Building of a Nation's Health." Sir George Newman.
- "Suffolk Scene." Julian Tennyson.
- "European Jungle." F. Yeats-Brown.
- "Inside Asia." John Gunther.

COMING EVENTS.

July 28th.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Monthly Meeting, 23, Portland Place, London, W.1. 2.30 p.m.

* John Wright & Sons, Ltd, Bristol. Price 6d.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

NIGHTINGALE BRICK INCENTIVE FOR GREATER SERVICE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING,
1, Thomas Street, Plymouth, U.S.A.
June 9th, 1939.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,

Founder, International Council of Nurses.

DEAR MADAM,—To-day I learned Air Mail Service is really a fact, so I wish to write you in honour of the progress of a wonderful discovery.

Our Jordan Hospital is about to expand; \$150,000 are asked for. I believe the gift of the Nightingale Brick was an incentive for greater service.

We mounted it on a mahogany base, with plate-glass case on sides and top and the name of yourself as the donor.

At a three-day session of the American Nurses' Association, the New England Division, the poster showing your photo as the Founder in 1899 was shown, also your signature. As I stood before the bulletin board and read the poster, I remembered I also have your signature in a letter, in which you mention the accident to our mutual dear friend, Miss Isabel Macdonald. I wish to attach it to the plate-glass showcase in which the "brick" reposes, if you do not object.

We also have difficulty in getting our State laws to properly recognise the status of fully trained nurses.

It is a serious blow to us that we cannot have protection and assistance, that so-called practical nurses may be State registered. We are not being idle, and our representative at the State House is asked to oppose such action.

At this convention we listened to an address by Virginia Dunbar, R.N., on "Red Cross." I mention this, as Miss Dunbar was accepted under the quota for U.S.A. to attend the college at Manchester Square, London, England. The "proceedings of the Eighth Congress," held in London in 1937, are before me. What a thrill to think I really was present.

"It is a poor heart that never rejoices," and do we not wish our International to be great-hearted, understanding, sympathetic, kindly and appreciative? I am sure we all do wish this.

We are thrilled at the visit of King George and Queen Elizabeth to U.S.A. I listened in radio to hear them both. I wish they would come to Plymouth to see the "Rock," but, maybe, English and British nurses *en route* in 1941 may make an effort to see the oldest town in U.S.A.

"Grow old with me!

The best is yet to be,

The last of life for which the first was made."

Sincerely,

ALICE E. MACDONALD.

FIGHTS FOR NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Apropos of the recently published article in the *Evening Standard*, "Fights for Nurses," am just wondering whether it is worth while. The *untrained* woman to-day does *more* nursing of every kind than ever before, and gets the same pay! The midwife, oh! she can do anything or be anything; run Nursing Homes, be Matron of General Hospitals, etc., etc.

So what is the object of being highly qualified? You're not thought any more of; nurses have *no* status, State Registration notwithstanding.

S.R. Nurses who are District Nurses in a fashionable part of London, lug their bicycles up and down a steep basement

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