

Notice.

We are pleased to remind Fellows and Members that Mr. Francis Edwards has arranged that "A Midsummer Night's Dream" will be performed every evening from July 16th to 21st, both dates inclusive, at Reigate Priory, Entrance near the Lake. So do come if you can!

News from South Africa.

To Nurse Their Way Round the World.

Two 22-year-old nurses of the Frere Hospital in East London, S. Africa, intend to nurse their way round the world, beginning in New Zealand, where there is an acute shortage of trained nurses. Authorities there told them that when they had registered as trained nurses, the hospitals would be very glad of their services. After six months at Christchurch they hope to come to England for awhile.

Hospital Lift Shaft Dangers.

Being wheeled on a stretcher from the X-ray Theatre at Johannesburg General Hospital, a woman with a broken arm fell down the lift shaft and broke her spine. The lift door was open but the roof of the lift was eight feet below. The mishap was due to a defect in the safety lock on the outer gate, letting the gate open though the lift was not at the floor. A passing convalescent patient in the corridor had hastily opened the gate and walked away without noticing the empty shaft and the wheeler-attendant naturally assumed that the stretcher could be pushed into the lift.

The mishap seems to point to the desirability both of a daily routine test of all hospital lift gate locks and of a strict order to wheeler-attendants always to see for themselves that the lift is in place and not to assume that it is because some kindly passer has hastily opened it to save them trouble.

Explosion of a Glass Eye.

The Royal Adelaide Hospital, in the capital of the State of South Australia, has had to treat an extraordinary case of facial injury.

A woman, aged 53, wearing spectacles, had been listening to the wireless one evening, in the presence of a friend, after the temperature out of doors had dropped from 101 to 72 deg. Fah. in four hours, when, with a shock like a blow, her glass eye shattered. Numerous little splinters of glass were removed from the socket.

There was a suggestion that the rather swift temperature fall might have caused internal strains and stresses in the glass. (Artificial eyes are now made of acrylic plastic, virtually unbreakable.)

Letters to the Editor.

Kentucky, U.S.A.
May 18th, 1951.

The Editor,
THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.
DEAR MADAM,

Mrs. Breckinridge has asked me to write you as she is devoting all of time to the writing of the history of the Frontier Nursing Service for Harper and Brothers.

With a great deal of pleasure and surprise Mrs. Breckinridge read your kind message of congratulation in the April, 1951, number of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. She has asked me to write you that she has read the Journal with interest and affection for 30 years.

With kind regards from Mrs. Breckinridge and best wishes to you from all the members of our staff.

I am, sincerely yours,
HELEN E. BROWNE,
Assistant Director.



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