

RÜDIN, may be regarded as a permanent record of the position of knowledge in 1911. The book is well illustrated, so that it serves as a useful guide in the three subjects, while a full bibliography by Dr. RUDOLF ALLERS greatly increases its value. The work is divided into chapters, and each chapter is written around some of the more typical tables, in order that the story which the authors have to tell may be clearly laid before the reader. First comes propagation, next variability, then in order selection and mutation, the regularity of inheritance and Mendel's laws, inheritance in the human subject, degeneration, race hygiene, and lastly neo-Malthusianism. Every student of eugenics and all interested in the subject of heredity will find in its pages a readable, suggestive, and welcome account of a very difficult problem. The book is much more than a catalogue, and will find a place in scientific literature quite apart from the exhibition for which it was written.

HYGIENE FOR NURSES.

THE art of nursing has made great strides since the young man at the Bull in Holborn was left to the tender mercies of Betsy Prig and Mrs. Gamp; the nurse of the present day is expected to know much more than even her predecessors of twenty years ago. She must no longer be satisfied with being able to take a temperature, count the pulse or respirations, put on a dressing or change a sheet deftly and correctly. She must, it appears, know something of physics, of chemistry, and of sanitation. In Dr. F. J. SMITH'S *Domestic Hygiene*¹² the elements of these subjects are very clearly propounded in language which conveys in a lucid manner the meaning of the writer. The chapter on heat is most instructive; by practical illustrations the meaning of the terms "convection," "conduction," and "radiation" are related simply and thoroughly. Every nurse knows, or should know, that a bedroom requires to be well ventilated; but after reading the chapter on ventilation she will know better not only why fresh air should be admitted but how this should be done. There are few nurses who will not find their duties made more interesting and of greater service to their patients by a study of Dr. Smith's little book.

But the prevention of disease may be said to enter into the daily life of a nurse as much as it does into that of the medical practitioner, and for those who desire to become acquainted with what may be termed "household sanitation," Dr. MACLEOD has prepared his *Hygiene for Nurses*.¹³ He deals in a readable manner with water supply, referring especially to the domestic supply, the best way to prevent its pollution, the forms of filters to be used and to be avoided, and he includes a well-written description of the hot-water system as it is to be found in modern houses. The sanitary appliances, of types both good and bad, are well illustrated by drawings, and their salient features accurately described, so that a careful study of this work should enable any one untrained in sanitary work to ascertain whether there is anything wrong with the sanitary fittings above ground. In an appendix useful information is given with regard to the law as to vaccination, infectious diseases, the notification of births, as to the Children Act, the Midwives Act, and the care of school children. When dealing with infectious diseases it would have been well to have drawn attention to Section 126 of the Public Health Act, 1875, which refers to the exposure in public places and elsewhere of infected persons.

NOTES ON BOOKS.

THE gospel of Fresh Air has been preached far and wide, and, in theory, every one admits its value. In practice, however, the cult of the open window has not made very great strides, and the fear of "draughts" is as great as ever, except amongst those who have learnt by experience to ignore with impunity. To minimize draughts and yet to obtain a maximum amount of fresh air is a problem that

has puzzled many ingenious minds. We have before us a work¹⁴ from an expert American pen, in which every conceivable form of contrivance is described, and figured by means of photographs, by which fresh air may be used to advantage. Whether it be by means of tents fitted to open windows, by roof bungalows, by iron-frame porches, balconies or loggias, or by specially constructed buildings, ingenuity is never at fault to provide the needed accommodation in the most practical form. It would be difficult indeed to find any conditions which are not provided for in this comprehensive work, and we can cordially commend it to every one who wishes to utilize his opportunities of obtaining fresh air at all times, whether in town or country. Primarily recommended for the treatment of pulmonary disease, this habit of inhaling fresh air by night as well as by day is eminently prophylactic, and every one may find in Dr. CARRINGTON'S work a description of the best way in which he may cultivate it.

MARSHALL AND HURST'S *Junior Course of Practical Zoology*¹⁵ is so well known to all teachers and students of elementary zoology that any words of commendation seem to be superfluous. The book has now reached its seventh edition. It has been carefully revised by Professor F. W. GAMBLE, of the University of Birmingham. A new chapter on the embryology of the chick has been included, thus adding very materially to the usefulness of the work. There is one suggestion, however, we would like to offer, which might be considered in future editions; it is that the frog might be included in the types dealt with. We are aware that there is a separate small volume on the frog, written by the late Professor Marshall, but the anatomy of this animal is there dealt with at greater length than are the types in the volume under consideration. Students often rebel at having to purchase a separate book for one animal, and considering the fact that the frog is included in every elementary practical class, its inclusion here would make this *Junior Course* very complete, the smaller volume on the frog would still be used by students desirous of obtaining a fuller knowledge. As a practical guide this book is in every way good, reliable, and thoroughly useful.

To those in search of a house or about to build one *The Best Hundred Houses*,¹⁶ or a visit to the exhibition of the completed houses it illustrates at the Romford Garden City, Gidea Park, may be recommended. Houses costing £500 and cottages costing £375 are shown. Block plans of the floors of each house are given, illustrating many varieties of internal planning, with a sketch of each house as it appears in its garden plot. There are many picturesque designs, and each is supplemented by the architect's summary of the advantages of the plan and the materials used in putting it into effect. The book, which is sold for the benefit of the King's College Hospital fund, is packed with illustrations of the Gidea Park of to-day, Old Romford, and the historic people who have moved in and around it, and is quite an entertaining and artistic shillingsworth. Over a score of well-known people indicate what they consider the worst feature and the greatest improvement in modern houses. As Sir Frederick Treves in his communication says, "Ugliness is not necessarily cheap, and some touch of beauty is not beyond the reach of the limited purse. . . . In the suburbs of every large town acre after acre of land is covered with houses whose only external feature is ugliness, houses as free from any trace of design as a row of packing cases. . . . The work the exhibition has in hand affects very directly the health and comfort of the people, as well as their artistic education, and, I may add, their self-respect."

¹⁴ *Fresh Air and How to Use It*. By Thomas Spees Carrington, M.D., Assistant Secretary of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. New York: The National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. 1912. (Post 8vo, 1 p. 250; illustrations 150. 4s. 2d. or 1 dol.)

¹⁵ *A Junior Course of Practical Zoology*. By the late Professor A. Milnes Marshall, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S., etc., and the late C. Herbert Hurst, Ph.D. Seventh edition. Revised by F. W. Gamble, D.Sc., F.R.S. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 1912. (Crown 8vo, pp. 551; figs. 94. 10s. 6d.)

¹⁶ *The Best Hundred Houses*. Published for the Exhibition Committee. London: 33, Henrietta Street, W.C. (Small 8vo, pp. 149; 350 sketches, photographic illustrations, and plans. 1s. net.)

It is announced that Dr. Giuseppe Pelacci, the chief physician to the Pope, died recently.

ACCORDING to an American Consular report, the number of cremations carried out in Germany last November was 665 against 530, the total recorded at the corresponding period in the previous year. Of the persons whose bodies were cremated, 573 were Protestants.

¹² *Domestic Hygiene for Nurses, with as much of Physics and Chemistry as are necessary to the reasonable understanding thereof*. By Fred. J. Smith, M.D., F.R.C.P. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1911. (Post 8vo, pp. 164; figs. 18. 2s. 6d. net.)

¹³ *Hygiene for Nurses, Theoretical and Practical*. By Herbert W. G. Macleod, B.Sc., M.D., M.S. Edin., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. Lond., D.P.H. Camb. London: Smith Elder, and Co. 1911. (Post 8vo, pp. 245; figures 49. 3s. 6d. net.)