

MEN, WOMEN AND GIRLS are required for training as **PSYCHIATRIC NURSES**

There are vacancies at the following Hospitals:—

*Vacancies for female nurses only.

NORTH ISLAND

Auckland Mental Hospital.
Kingseat Hospital, Papakura.
*Ravenhorpe Hospital, Bombay.
Tokanui Hospital, Te Awamutu.
Porirua Hospital (near Wellington).

SOUTH ISLAND

*Nelson Mental Hospital.
*Seaview Hospital, Hokitika.
*Sunnyside Hospital, Christchurch.
Seacliff Hospital (near Dunedin).

PAY:

MALES: Basic salary £448/10/- p.a., less £90 p.a. board and lodgings. Uniforms are provided. An allowance of 17½% of gross salary is paid for week-end and Statutory Holiday duty. Net earnings average £7/12/- per week over the year.

FEMALES: Basic salary £322 p.a., less £90 for board and lodgings. Uniforms, shoes and stockings are provided. An allowance of 17½% of gross salary is paid for week-end and Statutory Holiday duty. Net earnings average £4/19/- per week over the year. Overtime is paid for duty in excess of the normal roster.

LEAVE: Two months per annum in addition to days off.

TRAINING: Full course of training is given for Registration as a Psychiatric Nurse.

HOW TO APPLY: If you are near to one of these Hospitals, call and see the Matron, or write to the Medical Superintendent of one of the Hospitals. They will be pleased to explain the work and conditions.



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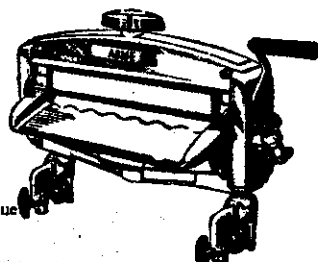
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BOOKS

Magisterial Opinion

THE INDISCRETIONS OF A MAGISTRATE, by Basil L. Henriques; Harrap. English price, 8/6.

(Reviewed by Walter Brookes)

THE experiences of the author as chairman of an English juvenile court, with his observations and conclusions, form the subject matter of this book. It is full of information, accounts of cases, anecdotes and keen comments on human nature. It concludes with practical suggestions for improving welfare work, some of which—greater co-ordination and integration, for instance—are similar to those stated in other books which I have reviewed here and which are referred to by Mr. Henriques.

With a book of this kind little more can be done to indicate its value than to state its scope. It is by one of the best-known British magistrates, and what he has to say about his work is obviously to be taken seriously. Still, I feel it due to the insular outlook of New Zealanders, so often referred to, to say that the author has visited New Zealand; that he highly commends some of the court practices here; and that he has very high praise indeed for the girls' home at Burwood, near Christchurch, and for its principal, Miss Scotter, although in the ignorance of an overseas visitor he refers to it by the British name of "approved school."

Consideration of the style of the book brings to light an interesting point. Frankly, I found at first something slightly, very slightly, irritating. For instance, there was the observation (made as a point in an illustrative anecdote) that a girl defendant was "wearing a perfectly impossible hat." I could not help feeling that this was hardly suitable language for a book of this kind; and there were many other similar offences of which the author had to be convicted. I also felt that there was slightly too personal a quality about some of the anecdotes. It was not till I read the preface (as I suppose I should have done in the first place), and learnt that much of the material was from lectures delivered in Australia, New Zealand, Sweden and the United States, that I saw the reason for the tone to which I had taken exception. The style for speaking is, of course, much more intimate and familiar than that for a book. I had not realised the difference so clearly before.

The illustrative anecdote about the hat is, incidentally, one of several told to show the waywardness of the Press. Committing one of his indiscretions, the Magistrate told the defendant in the case, who was evidently known to him: "You look simply awful in that hat." And it was that remark, in some cases accompanied by caricatures of judges in wigs, that got into the papers all over the country instead of other far more important things that he had to say. Alas, how difficult it is for public men to realise, and even if they do realise to stomach the fact, that the reporters have their minds far more on pleasing their readers than those who so obligingly supply them with copy. As for the time Princess Margaret visited the



BASIL HENRIQUES

court and the one bored reporter came in and realised who was there and in 20 minutes had 17 others, photographers and all. . . It is the same everywhere.

MODERN GOTHIC

GORMENGHAST and THE GLASS-BLOWERS, by Mervyn Peake; Eyre and Spottiswoode; English prices, 15/- and 7/6 respectively.

SINCE *Titus Groan* appeared in 1946 there has been a cult of Mervyn Peake among many of the intelligentsia. This first novel puzzled nearly everyone who read it, although its verbal gusto and grotesque comedy were highly entertaining. *Gormenghast* completes the original story with the fall of the House of Groan. Titus, the 77th Earl, grows up and tries to see what lies beyond the castle walls of his decaying kingdom. He is frustrated by Steerpike's attempt to seize power, and the book ends with a great storm during which Titus and Steerpike chase each other through endless corridors and over acres of roofs, while the surrounding river bursts its banks. The book is often outrageously funny (for instance, in the scene where the Professor woos Irma Prunesqualor), although the tortured style sometimes conceals rather than reveals the author's wit and gothic fancy. The characters—Swelter, Flay and Barquentine, Fuchsia and the twins Cora and Clarice—are all distortions of humanity, and the allegory of the book, if there is one, is heavily veiled.

Mervyn Peake's poems, *The Glass-blowers*, are a different matter, that is to say, they are compact, metaphysical rather than romantic, and generally traditional in form. The title poem is a bold and sensitive piece of pictorial imagination, and I particularly liked also "Truths Have No Separate Fires."

—P.J.W.

SOCIAL LANDSCAPE

A SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HISTORY OF BRITAIN, 1760-1950, by Pauline Gregg; George Harrap and Co. Ltd., English price, 18/-.

DR. GREGG is a specialist in the details of history, whose purpose is not to interpret the sequence of events but to record facts. As a report on conditions ruling in Britain from 1760

N.Z. LISTENER, MAY 25, 1951.