

taking the charge of patients. Why not try and organise an American Nurses' Association, the first object of which would be to get all the Nurses in the country welded together into one organisation? The qualification of membership would be simply a guarantee of two years' work as a Nurse from a Hospital Training School; and if we could get a sufficient proportion of Nurses to join, the Association would then take steps to obtain the grant of a Charter to bring about an official Registration of Nurses. I would like to have my fellow-workers' opinion on the subject.—EDITH GORDON."

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MY readers will notice the close similarity of the terms and phrases used in the above letter, with many which we have employed in advocating the plans of the B. N. A. I think the writer is, however, rather late in the field, for I heard some weeks ago, that leading American Nurses had applied to our Nurses' Association for papers and information how to organise a similar Union for themselves. For my own part I cannot see why there should not be an Anglo-Saxon Nurses' Association to unite the noblest women-workers of the greatest race, in one world-wide union. Statisticians tell us that fifty years hence half the population of the globe will be speaking the English language. If Nurses of all creeds, but of the same old race, whether on this side of the "herring-pond," or that, were joined together in one great federation of mercy, might it not be the prelude to a possible future confederation of Anglo-Saxon nations, which by its very immensity of power in wealth and population could enforce peace on all other nations, and practically rule the world?

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I AM sorry to see two cases in the papers in which Nurses have been convicted of theft. They point, however, a moral which may well be emphasised. When these women, and others like them, leave prison, there is, at present, no means of preventing them from returning to Nursing work, and, probably, once more disgracing the profession. If, however, we had Registration in force, their names would have been struck off the Roll, and then they would have been powerless to bring further disrepute on other Nurses.

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THE *Daily Telegraph* has the following interesting account this week of a new evidence of the greater care now-a-days bestowed upon Nurses and their surroundings, and their work:—"The Nurses' Refectory at Guy's Hospital is now made bright and glad by the adornment of Mr. Herbert James Draper's beautiful fresco, entitled 'Spring.' Not

only is the fresco beautiful as a work of art, but its history is interesting and encouraging to all art students. Mr. Draper won the Royal Academy students' prize of £40, for 'design for the decoration of a public building,' with his watercolour drawing of this very 'Spring,' and so good was his work that for the first time in the history of these prizes the President and Council of the Royal Academy gave the successful student a commission to carry out his design in fresco, with life-size figures. The work, now completed, consists of a skilfully composed group of seventeen figures, emblematic of Spring, allegorical in character, but withal very real and human and sympathetic."

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"'SPRING' herself is the central figure, and round her are grouped young men and maidens and laughing children, catching the blossoms of the newborn May. The birds are let loose for their Spring flight, the clear sweet air is full of melody and joyousness, and a welcome note of gladness pervades the whole composition. The treatment is classic, and follows Sir Frederic Leighton's method, as shown in his South Kensington lunette, but it is not the pseudo-classic, for the draperies are veritably English, and not spurious Greek. The colour harmony is a rich apple-blossom, or almond-blossom pink, thrown up by a deep band of dark-blue sky, breaking into yellow light on the horizon, and the effect produced by the nice sense of colour, coupled with clear and intelligible drawing, is of high artistic value."

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"MR. DRAPER'S work is simple and sympathetic. It is 18ft. long by 7ft. high, the resultant of over a year's study, and the method employed is a species of Spirit Fresco, universally adopted in Paris of late years for mural paintings, and the medium used consists largely of paraffin-wax dissolved in spirit. It is indeed a wise and thoughtful idea to place this beautiful work in the Nurses' Refectory, where its gentle spirit will undoubtedly lighten the darkness of the Sisters' daily life. Art of this sort in a great Hospital such as Guy's is possibly a more invigorating tonic than all the collective simples compounded by the faculty. The artist, the Hospital, and the Royal Academy are alike to be congratulated on this important production, which must serve as an encouraging precedent to our rising race of young artists."

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WHAT do my readers think of the following culled from the *Family Circle* of last week? A fair field and no favour seems to be the rule now in the employment of the sexes:—"There is a good deal to be said in favour of training young men as Professional Nurses. A training school

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