

A VISITOR asked leave to speak as an outsider, and said that it appeared to her that the knowledge which the lecturer spoke of as being the equipment of the amateur Nurse was such as every woman ought to have. She felt that in all these matters the rich were fully as ignorant as the poor, and that especially in the matter of infection there was need for a much wider diffusion of knowledge.

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MISS INGALL said from her experience of the London Fever Hospital, that it was hardly possible to give too much or too varied instruction in the mysteries of disinfection, and that she hardly thought so important a process should be entrusted to an amateur Nurse.

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MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK did not altogether and always agree with the saying that "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing." She thought that a little knowledge of hygiene, for example, was better than none. She wished that every girl in completing her school career could be taught the outlines of physiology, hygiene and anatomy; but the sense of the teachers was very often against having these subjects taught. Mrs. Fenwick remarked on the careless way in which the removal of infectious bedding was carried out by those entrusted with its disinfection. She quite agreed with Miss Wood that it was most important that the amateur Nurse should not be confounded with the professional, and Registration would provide the determining mark. Mrs. Fenwick drew attention to the hardship on the professional Nurse that she could claim no higher remuneration than the amateur Nurse, and indeed she thought that the whole question of remuneration required adjustment.

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A GENTLEMAN, who spoke as an outsider, said that he thought the employer of the Nurse should ask to see the certificate of training, or equivalent document, before engaging her services, and refuse her assistance if she could not prove herself to be fully trained. He was much interested to hear about the Association's scheme of Registration, which he thought would be a great safeguard to the public.

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MISS WOOD pointed out that such a course would entail much vexation and labour on the Doctor recommending the employment of the Nurse; but that the adoption of Registration would meet the difficulty.

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THE CHAIRMAN said that the association was still young and must have patience. Registration must come in the end, because the principle was right.

He was of opinion that the knowledge acquired by the amateur Nurse, as sketched out by the lecturer, was of great use, and that every girl should be taught on these lines. Registration would be the distinguishing mark. Mr. CLARK, in reply, said that he was pleased to find that the meeting accepted the amateur Nurse; he rather expected to find that he had thrown a bomb-shell among the audience. The distinction between the Nurses should be marked by Registration. He did not think that the amateur Nurse should aspire to work as the professional Nurse, nor that she should ever take remuneration. He felt that the error in teaching was that it was not definite, and too diffuse, and, moreover, that it gave no scope for the pupil to make use of her own intellect.

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DR. HEYWOOD SMITH proposed the votes of thanks to the lecturer and chairman of the evening, and in so doing touched upon the question of remuneration, especially as it affected Private Nurses working on their own account. He pointed out that the drift of the times was towards the Nursing Institution, and thus the Private Nurse would best consult her own interest by attaching herself to an Institution. The votes were carried by acclamation, and the meeting adjourned.

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I HAVE from Launceston, Tasmania, a long account of the opening of the Children's Wards at the General Hospital. The following cannot be without interest to English readers:—"When the collections were made in aid of the Queen's Jubilee address fund, it was found that, after paying expenses, a sum of £450 was left, and it was decided that this should form the nucleus of a building fund, and it was hoped that this would be added to by private subscription; but the funds did not come in, and the next best thing to do was to endeavour to have a Ward set apart in the General Hospital. With this object the fund was nursed for two or three years, and about £60 having been collected, correspondence was opened with the Hospital Board, and an offer was made to furnish the room thus set apart. The proposal was favourably entertained, and two lofty rooms, twenty feet square, situate at the southern end of the building, were chosen. It is only lately that the alterations made at the Hospital allowed these to be utilised, but, when vacant, no time was lost in getting them ready. The walls were painted light pink and French grey in the upper part, and a tertiary green in the lower, and were relieved by neat stencilling. Each room has been furnished with six beds, and in the boys' ward four of these are occupied already, whilst in the female ward one blue-eyed little sprite of about

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