

culum to their Nurses, has been adopted by numberless Institutions at home and abroad, on the avowed ground, in many instances, that professional opinion, as represented by the Association, considered this term of education essential.

We have seen, moreover, how the Association has received the sincerest form of flattery—imitation—in various quarters of the globe; how our American cousins—as was meet, considering their descent—quickly followed the example, and formed an American Nurses' Association; and how, as we told quite recently, the same course has now been adopted at the Antipodes by the inauguration of another Nurses' Association there. The latter fact, indeed, differs from the former because the promoters of the Australian body are already members of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and the expressed design of their scheme, is to raise the standard of their members gradually, until they reach that enforced by the R.B.N.A., and then to seek affiliation with it. Even as we write we receive news showing that precisely the same movement is being proposed in two other important colonies. And so it requires but little imagination to realise that British Nurses are within a measurable distance of solving for themselves the problem of professional federation, which, in its political form, is now engaging the keenest attention of the leading statesmen throughout our world-wide Empire. To these, at present, federation is a dream of the future—to Nurses it may soon become an accomplished fact.

We wonder, sometimes, whether many of the Members of the Association comprehend the international movement which they are themselves helping to direct and forward. We wonder, sometimes, whether those few Matrons and Nurses who have tried to oppose the progress of the Association realise the futility of their efforts to keep back this great wave of Nursing improvement, organization, and reform, which, with quiet and resistless force, is sweeping round the world. We are quite certain that large numbers of Trained Nurses must be ignorant of what is transpiring around them, or they would leave no

stone unturned to become members of the powerful Association, which is bringing about such great results in the Nursing profession in so many parts of the world.

These reflections have, with increased force, been borne in upon us by the remarkable meeting of Medical Men and Nurses, which took place on October 4th and 5th, in Amsterdam. The Editor of the NURSING RECORD—as the representative organ of the Nursing profession, in this country—was honoured with a most warm invitation to be present at this gathering, and with great pleasure we availed ourselves of the opportunity.

In passing, we may be pardoned for saying that we accepted the extreme courtesy and most generous hospitality which was extended to us, as an expression of the kindly feeling entertained towards the staff of this Journal, whose loyal and steadfast work for the Nursing profession, received most cordial acknowledgement from various speakers at this important Conference. And, on behalf of our colleagues, we tender our grateful thanks to our hosts, and to our readers in the Netherlands.

A brief account of the public business transacted at this—the first Nursing Meeting which has been held in Holland—will be found in another column. The most noticeable features, for our readers, of the discussions which took place were the many cordial references which were made to the Royal British Nurses' Association, and the enthusiastic and grateful recognition of the great work which Her Royal Highness Princess CHRISTIAN has accomplished for the Nurses, not only of Great Britain, but of the whole world. Private conferences between several of the leading Medical Men and Hospital Matrons were held, in addition to the more public discussions at which between 500 and 600 were present. Practically, we have reason to believe that it has been decided that a Dutch Nurses' Association should be formed upon precisely the same lines as those upon which the R.B.N.A. was founded, and that the programme of this Association should be adopted in its entirety. The public meetings practically decided by an unanimous

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