

to the well-known abuses, which flourish gaily in sister institutions under their *patronage*—such as sending out semi-trained Probationers as “thoroughly-trained Nurses”—we should have more faith in their “virtuous indignation.”

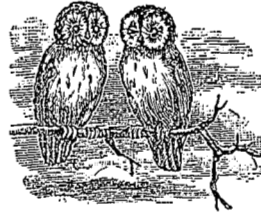
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THE first annual meeting has just taken place in Glasgow, of the Glasgow West of Scotland Co-operation for Trained Nurses, at the Central Home, 18, Sardinia Terrace, Hillhead, many friends of the institution were present. Dr. COATS having been called to the chair, the minutes of the general meeting held on 27th April last were read and approved. It appeared from the report by the Executive, which was then submitted, that the origin of the scheme was due to Miss ROUGH, the present Lady Superintendent. The various steps which had been taken by the Executive in carrying it forward were briefly stated. The co-operation had been founded on similar lines to the Nurses' Co-operation in London. The objects of the co-operation, as defined in the constitution, are (1) to establish in Glasgow a central register for thoroughly trained Nurses, where they may be engaged by medical practitioners and the public; (2) to provide Nurses with regular employment, and at the same time a full remuneration for their services; (3) to establish in Glasgow a Central Home where, while off duty, Nurses may live comfortably at moderate charges; (4) to provide a fund for the benefit of the Nurses of the co-operation. It was calculated that a capital sum of about £700 would be required to start the co-operation until it should be self-supporting, and of that sum upwards of £600 had already been subscribed. The Home has been comfortably furnished, and Nurses are now being enrolled. The report and financial statement having been approved, office-bearers and a general committee were appointed for the ensuing year. The Chairman stated that Mrs. ELDER had agreed to become President, and she was accordingly unanimously elected to that office. A number of ladies and gentlemen were appointed Vice-Presidents. Dr. PERRY and Dr. WALLACE ANDERSON were appointed honorary physicians, and Dr. HENRY CLARK and Dr. DAVID NEWMAN honorary surgeons. The general committee met thereafter and appointed the executive. We heartily congratulate the “second city” upon this new departure, and wish it the success which it deserves.

## Matrons in Council.

### WHAT IS A TRAINED NURSE?

*What should constitute an efficient preliminary education, and how should it be obtained?*



MADAM,—It appears to me that it would be very hard to answer the first question better than you have done in the Editorial on January 13th with reference to the subjects for candidates to be examined in,\* because those should be the subjects, certainly, which every Probationer should learn before entering a Hospital. I especially approve of what you say as to a Domestic education, for it is wonderful how few girls, who must expect some day to be wives and mothers, know anything about the management of a house, or the other things you wisely mention. I think most of the women who try to go into Hospitals have had a fairly good general education, and the subjects of that must be learnt at school; the domestic part should be learnt at home. It is the scientific part which will present the greatest difficulty, I imagine, because the necessary subjects are not taught at ordinary girls' schools, nor even at high schools. The NURSING RECORD pointed out, some time ago, that the Glasgow Infirmary gave candidates courses of preliminary education, and, I suppose, other Hospitals might do the same, if they would take the trouble and expense, and that would settle the difficulty at once, because then each Hospital would, like Glasgow, take in the Probationers it had taught and examined from the first, and they would not go in quite fresh to everything as they do now. I must say, I think the Glasgow scheme is excellent, and a long way ahead of any other system I have heard of. I ought to explain that I have done no Nursing since I married, but I am as interested as ever in everything relating to the profession I am so proud to have belonged to, and I am sure the NURSING RECORD is doing a wonderful amount of good in making the public as well as the Nurses think more about the responsibility they have towards each other.—Yours faithfully, HILDA E. NOEL.

\* The paragraphs to which Mrs. Noel alludes are as follows, and we should be glad if our readers would give us their views upon any other subjects which they consider should be included in an efficient preliminary education.

A. *General Education*—which might, for instance, include a knowledge of Geography, Arithmetic, English History, Grammar and Literature, the writing of a short Prose Essay, and the translation of sentences of Latin, French, or German into English.

B. *Domestic*—that is to say, a practical acquaintance with household management, with dusting, scrubbing, and cleaning, with needlework, with the keeping of ordinary accounts, and with the cooking of invalid foods.

C. *Scientific*—which should include a knowledge of Elementary Anatomy, Physiology, Hygiene, and Chemistry, sufficient to enable the candidate to understand the constitution and working of the human body in health; the cardinal principles of ventilation and cleanliness; the ordinary methods of testing urine; and practical dexterity in the padding of splints and bandaging.



[previous page](#)

[next page](#)