

Annotations.**AN IMPORTANT RESOLUTION.**

AN important resolution was proposed at the Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health, at Dublin, by Dr. Moorhead, and carried. It ran as follows:—

"That this Section is of opinion that the Union Hospitals in Ireland should be disassociated from Workhouses, and that patients admitted to these buildings for treatment should not be compelled to do anything which would class them as paupers."

It is well known that many of the difficulties which occur in the efficient management of the nursing department of workhouse infirmaries arise from the fact that the infirmary is attached to the workhouse, and that the Matron of the workhouse, who is the chief female official, is usually quite unacquainted with nursing matters, and consequently cannot efficiently superintend or supervise nursing arrangements. It is also certain that if patients could be admitted to Poor Law infirmaries, without feeling that they thereby become paupers, that these infirmaries could be made available for many, who, though more properly belonging to the class for whom the Poor Law provides, at present find their way into general hospitals. Until the infirmaries are entirely dissociated from workhouses, so long will many of the more respectable poor shrink from entering them.

EDINBURGH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.

THE separate Medical School for Women at Surgeon Square, Edinburgh, has for the present suspended its classes, the reason which has led to this course being adopted being that while the University Court in 1896 laid down the rule that the medical schools, or teachers, which asked for the recognition of the medical education given by them to women should show that their women pupils had not attended mixed classes, except on special cause shown, this rule has not been enforced. The Committee of the Edinburgh School of Medicine for Women organised, at great expense, separate classes for women, in all the subjects of the curriculum, with the exception of two (Physics and Physiology) specially excepted by the Court. It is stated, however, that though the rule of the court was re-affirmed last year, no effort was made to enforce it, women

students attended mixed classes, and in consequence the classes specially arranged for them could not be made self supporting. After a correspondence between Dr. Sophia Jex-Blake, Dean of the school, and the Secretary of the University Court it was therefore decided, with much regret, to suspend the medical classes of the School of Medicine for Women until further notice. This decision, which has been rendered necessary, by the course taken by the University Court, will be received with great regret by all who are interested in the Edinburgh School of Medicine for Women.

THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND.

WE draw attention to the following advertisement which appeared recently in a contemporary:—

———— COUNTY COUNCIL.**TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE.**

WANTED, a LECTURER on Health and *Sick Nursing*, *One hospital trained preferred.*
(The italics are ours.)

We should like to ask what possible advantage an audience can be expected to derive from listening to a lecturer on nursing who is *not* hospital trained? This eccentric County Council seems to have a glimmering notion that it is preferable that the lecturer it requires should know something of nursing, but still it evidently regards this as by no means essential. As County Council Lecturers are paid for out of public funds it would be well if the public made it quite clear that they do not desire to pay any persons who are not experts in the subjects upon which they lecture.

THE VICTORIAN ORDER OF NURSES.

THE Victorian Order of Nurses in Canada seems likely to be a great success. The calls for the services of the nurses are increasing so rapidly that in the immediate future additional nurses will probably be enrolled. The members of the Order are nurses of the highest professional standing. Their visits are always made at the request of the physicians in charge of the cases. Many of the patients visited have been those who, while quite able and ready to give a small fee for the services of the nurses, would yet have been quite unable to pay the usual charges, and who would therefore have been compelled to do without skilled nursing if it were not for the help afforded by the Victorian Order.

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