

of a system of trained and scientific nursing. Those nurses who worked in Greece at the time of the war, and more especially those who worked in the old Military Hospital, will watch with interest the development of the new system. Nursing means so much. It brings comfort, renewed health, and even life itself to patients. For instance, we have been informed by one of the Sisters who nursed in our own Naval Hospitals, that when trained nurses were first introduced into the wards of these Hospitals, the death rate immediately fell fifty per cent. Could greater testimony be given to the worth of trained nursing? And so in Greece. There is no doubt that the introduction of trained nursing will work wonders in the Military Hospital. But the benefit it confers will by no means be confined by the walls of the hospital, because included in the new scheme is necessarily the training of orderlies. These orderlies, therefore, when their training is completed, will naturally be drafted on to important positions in other hospitals, and in time it may be hoped the benefits emanating from the centre at Athens will permeate the whole of Greece, and will be felt in a raised standard of nursing education throughout the country.

In the future, no doubt, the superintendence of the hospitals will be undertaken by Greek ladies, but some time must necessarily elapse before this can be the case. As all nurses know, there is no royal road to learning nursing, and, amongst many graduate nurses even, there are comparatively few who are fitted for the onerous duties of superintendents. The Greek women must therefore be prepared for years of hard work and study, before they can hope to become qualified to take over the control of the nursing in their hospitals, a position in which all must wish to see them eventually. Meanwhile, nurses in this country realise the great responsibility, as well as the honour, which has devolved upon their colleagues who are the pioneers of the new epoch of nursing in Greece. They will watch the development of the work with interest, as they realise the great issues involved, and they will rejoice that British nurses have been entrusted with this task, which means no less than revolutionizing the whole of the present system of nursing in Greece. There is a lesson for us behind the compliment—that British nurses must continue to improve and progress in their work, as nurses elsewhere are doing.

Annotations.

THE SCHOOL FOR THE STUDY OF TROPICAL DISEASES.

It is welcome news that the School in connection with the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool, for the study of Tropical Diseases, was last Saturday inaugurated by Lord Lister, who opened the ward, specially set apart for the purposes of the School. Mr. W. Adamson, the President of the Hospital, who was in the Chair on this interesting occasion, pointed out that, within recent years, hundreds of cases of tropical diseases had been under treatment in the wards of the Hospital, though, so far, no school had existed for the study of the subject. It was now hoped that the school, besides affording facilities of study to medical students, of diseases peculiar to the tropics, would provide an opportunity of special training for nurses who would go abroad properly qualified, and having a special knowledge of tropical diseases.

The benefit of such experience to nurses must be great. At the present time, more than ever before, the services of nurses are being requisitioned in all parts of the globe, and they necessarily go abroad without any special preparation for the work which they are called upon to undertake. And yet, more especially when they go to isolated posts, and not to hospitals where they will have the advantage of the experience of their colleagues, it is all important that they should know something of the diseases they will be called upon to nurse. At present, how many nurses are there who know anything about the nursing of malaria, what symptoms to observe and report, and how a patient should be fed. How many nurses even who received a patient suffering from malaria into an English hospital, would place him between blankets, and put on flannel pyjamas, and yet, if they put him into linen sheets it is quite certain that such a proceeding would be most harmful to him. This one instance will show how important it is that nurses who intend to go abroad should have special training, and such instances might be multiplied indefinitely.

The ceremony of opening the new ward took place in the afternoon, and was followed in the evening by a banquet.

The Chairman, in proposing "The Study of Tropical Diseases," emphasised the importance of the School from a medical as well as a

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