

the room should have been filled to overflowing with graduate nurses of the hospital, and that Miss Stewart with every expression of confidence and regard should have been enthusiastically elected President. It is impossible to over-estimate the importance, and the latent possibilities, of the new League. It embodies, first of all, the discovery that trained nurses feel the necessity for organizing into professional societies for the general good of the Nursing Profession. It demonstrates, in the second place, the desire of nurses to consider their own affairs, for all the officers of the League are nurses, the Constitution has been drawn up and proposed by nurses, and the professional feeling and loyalty of the League are evinced by the fact that it has elected to the office of President, its Founder and Organizer. It is characteristic however of the liberal spirit by which the League is governed that there is no regulation that the President shall be, of necessity, the Matron of the Hospital. It is the aim of the League to be a self-governing body, and the President holds office not in virtue of her position as Matron, but because the members feel that she is the one of their number whom they choose to elect.

We are glad also to observe that the members recognise that they have corporate obligations to those Graduates of the hospital who from illness or other reasons may need their assistance, and that one of the objects of the League is to promote a fund for the relief of former nurses of the hospital who are in distressed circumstances. Such an object must commend itself to all, and we do not doubt that effective help will be forthcoming from her colleagues for any Bart's nurse who is, from no fault of her own, in need.

It is noteworthy that the key note of Miss Stewart's opening words, which we report in another column, should be Duty. She pointed out to the members that as the certificated nurses of a great hospital they were taking upon themselves, by associating together, a grave responsibility, and impressed upon them the necessity for recognising this fact. It was in no light hearted spirit, but in the full recognition of the obligations involved, that the League was launched on its career—a career full of hopefulness, and of possibilities for indefinite expansion. The motto of the hospital is "Nulli Secundus." Once again, the nursing staff has proved that it recognises its obligation to live up to this motto.

Annotations.

PROGRESS OR PREJUDICE.

It is with pleasure that we record the decision of the Board of Management of the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, as to the admission of women representatives into the management of the institution. In accordance with a promise made by the chairman at the last annual meeting of subscribers, the Board has had this question under consideration, and has now, by a majority, recommended that two ladies be appointed managers at the forthcoming general meeting. The Board is greatly to be congratulated on its decision, and we have no doubt that the ladies appointed will be able to render much valuable service in their capacity as managers.

It is to be regretted that the managers of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney, have not been equally liberal-minded, but have once again rejected Miss Georgina Hill's resolution that, as the larger proportion of the inmates of the Hospital were women, it was desirable that women should be added to the Board of Management, and it is especially regrettable that this motion should have been opposed by a woman. Setting aside the injustice of imposing a sex disqualification it is surely most incongruous that in an institution founded by a woman, largely for the benefit of women, women should be wholly excluded from the management, and the statement of the chairman that "the Board thought it best that women should not be on it; on the ground that it would not be for the benefit of the Hospital," we must regard as gratuitously offensive. In an Incurable Home especially, the very key-note of success is efficient domestic management, and in this department there is no question that the expert knowledge possessed by women is much greater and more thorough than that of men, and that their services would be of the utmost value. We congratulate Miss Georgina Hill on having once again brought the matter forward, and hope that eventually the Governors will be inspired by a more liberal spirit than that which now animates them.

THE RUBICON.

WE notice that the quarterly Court of Governors of the Middlesex Hospital have sanctioned a scheme, in connection with the cancer wards at that institution for the scientific investigation of cancer. Cancer Research Laboratories have been arranged, and a staff of a Director, Assist-

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