

Amongst the Members of the Council present were:—Miss Cassandra Beachcroft, Miss Lucas (Temperance Hospital), Miss Hannaford, Miss Wainwright, Mrs. Andrews, Miss Rumboll, Miss Elma Smith, Miss Todd, Mrs. Staples, Miss Griffiths, Miss Atkins, Miss Annie Scott, Miss Annie Brown, Miss Foley, Miss Curtis, Miss Anstey, and many others.

Miss Hibbard, on ascending the platform, received quite an ovation, and spoke the following words with singular charm and good feeling:—

“Matrons, Nurses, Ladies and Gentlemen,— Since receiving the privilege from my friend, Mrs. Fenwick, to speak a few words to you this afternoon, my time has been so fully taken up that I fear the subject on which I was to say a few words will suffer; and that you will allow me, at some later date, to give the proper time and thought to it that it merits. However, the most practical demonstration of the evolution of the army nurse in the United States of America, is that five Sisters are present with you this afternoon in London, an evolution that was not dreamed of at the beginning of the Spanish-American War, when the civil nurses of our country were first called upon to aid the United States Army in the care of its sick and wounded soldiers. Now we stand on another rung of the ladder, and come filled with our most earnest desires to help take care of the soldiers who belong to you, and in whom, hereafter, we shall feel true interest. I trust, also, we may derive the greater satisfaction that comes only from personal contact, and the knowledge of duty done. My colleagues and myself feel that you will allow us to take this opportunity of thanking our friends in England for the many courtesies that have been extended to us since our arrival. Such a gathering as that of this afternoon only proves to us more clearly the intimate relationship of the nurse, whether she be English or American, and this is as it should be. Our profession should be our pride, our privilege to go where we are most needed, and our compensation that of having relieved where it is possible, for a nurse's touch to relieve, and a nurse's influence can be brought to bear. The greatest honour has been conferred on us and our profession by the gracious act of Her Majesty, in receiving us at Windsor Castle, and sending us out with such kind words of appreciation that will ever live in our hearts and make our lives hereafter feel even more consecrated to our work, in which, if we are spared, we hope to ever bear in mind that love, loyalty, patience and harmony with you, ourselves, each other, and all the world, should be our greatest motive.”

Miss Hibbard then held an informal reception,

more than a hundred Matrons and nurses being introduced to her by Miss Isla Stewart, who expressed their delight at meeting her and the Sisters of the *Maine*, and wished them all good luck, and with whom she discussed many interesting nursing problems.

Mrs. Hunt's Ladies' Orchestra played “soft and low” all the afternoon a selection of patriotic American and English airs, “The Star Spangled Banner” and “My Country 'tis of Thee” being repeated by request over and over again.

The one thing regretted by all was that, by misdirection, the invitation to the male nurses of the *Maine* (who had just arrived in London) did not reach them, and they were not present at the reception. We learn they shared the disappointment of the Matrons' Council, who would have greatly liked to have them present on this enjoyable occasion.

Appointments.

MATRONS.

MISS MARGARET BRIDGER has been appointed Matron of the Swansea Hospital. She was trained for three years at the General Infirmary, Huddersfield, and subsequently had charge of the operating theatre in that institution. For one year she held the position of Head Nurse at the Derbyshire Hospital for Women, and for two years that of Sister at the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire General Hospital. Since October, 1898, she has been Night Superintendent at the Swansea Hospital, and for the last month has done Matron's duties in this institution.

MISS JEANNIE CHAPMAN has been appointed Matron of the Grantham Hospital. She was at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, as nurse and Sister for seven years, and has held the position of Night Superintendent at the Royal Infirmary, Bradford. She has also had training in fever work.

MISS ROSE E. BENNION has been appointed Nurse-Matron of the Margate Cottage Hospital. She was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, for which institution she has also done private nursing. She is a member of the League of St. Bartholomew's Nurses.

SISTERS.

MISS M. EVANS has been appointed Sister at the Greek Hospital, Alexandria. She received her training at the Royal Infirmary, Sheffield, and has held the position of Charge Nurse at the Fountain Fever Hospital.

MISS CLARA SHELBORNE has been appointed Sister of the Women's and Children's Wards at the Swansea Hospital. She was trained for two years at the Fever Hospital, Bagthorpe, and, subsequently, at the Swansea Hospital.

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