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Editorial.

GREAT NEWS.

TWO most important pieces of news have reached us from the United States, which we feel sure will rejoice every trained nurse in this country who realises the importance of co-operation and organisation for professional purposes, not only amongst nurses, but also in connection with other women's societies. At their Annual Convention, just held in New York, the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses decided to join the National Council of Women of the United States, thus bringing the Society into relation with other branches of women's work in the States, and they further decided to enter into International relations with the nurses of other countries. The bare facts only have reached us so far, but we hasten to communicate them, feeling sure that our readers will realize their significance. The American Society of Superintendents has, from its inception been recognised as a powerful force in the nursing world. Numbering amongst its members all the leading Superintendents in the States, and organized on professional lines, it has already accomplished much work, and the introduction of the three years' standard of training in American Hospitals, and of an

increasing amount of uniformity of training, is largely due to the unity of purpose of its members. The Society has also been quick to recognize and defend the interests of the profession at large, and its excellent work in connection with the American Army Nursing Bill is fresh in all our minds.

It is easy therefore to see how beneficial the co-operation of the American Superintendents will be to the nurses of other nations, for we must recognize that, while Great Britain has been no doubt a fruitful source of suggestion for the good of the nursing profession, the prejudices and conservatism of an old country too frequently have prevented these ideas from being carried into effect. In the United States, on the contrary, where there is all the vitality and freedom of action of a young nation, to conceive has been to execute, and although nursing reform was first initiated here, our colleagues in the United States are now far ahead of us in this respect. Their experience, their capacity, and their co-operation therefore must be of the greatest benefit to other countries, and the news that they have decided to enter into international relations with the nurses of other nations gives us most unqualified pleasure, for it means no less than that they will help to raise the profession of nursing throughout the previous page next page