

then a blight has fallen upon the Association, and desperate efforts have been made to replenish its empty coffers by means of a café chantant and other undesirable measures, and as the management has foresworn the principle of State Registration, for which the Association was founded, it need no longer be considered from a professional point of view. In 1894 some of the Superintendents of Nurse Training Schools and of Nurses associated themselves together, under the name of the Matrons' Council, and, despite the efforts made to ruin the new Society, its membership has steadily increased, and much useful work has been accomplished. In 1899 Miss Isla Stewart, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, founded a League of the Graduate Nurses of the Hospital, which proved an immediate success, and during the present year the Matrons' Council has devoted much time and thought to the organization of a National League which, it is hoped, will gather into one body all the School Leagues which may be formed. It is suggested that the National League shall affiliate with the Matrons' Council to form the National Council of Nurses, which, in its turn, will be eligible for membership of the International Council of Nurses, and thus the whole chain of organization will be complete. The growth of such a National Council in this country may be slow, but if the nurses keep its government in their own hands, it will be sure.

The history of Nursing Organization in the United States is one of brilliant success. The American Society of Superintendents, which was founded in 1893, comprises all the leading Matrons in the States. Upon their initiative the National Associated Alumnae, in which the School Alumnae of graduate nurses are eligible by delegation, was founded. There are many flourishing school alumnae, and American nurses seem to be possessed by a sense of professional responsibility which, so far, has not been developed to any extent by British nurses. The latest development is the affiliation of the Superintendents' Society and the National Associated Alumnae, to form the American Council of Nurses, which is entering into official relations with the American Council of Women and the International Council of Nurses. Thus the links of the chain are complete.

It is satisfactory to note that other countries are beginning to organize on the same lines. Denmark has its National Council of Nurses, founded in 1899. Holland has two associations of nurses, "The Dutch Nursing Association," founded in 1893, and "The Dutch Association for furthering the interests of male and female nurses," which took shape during the present year.

There is also in Holland a recently formed Matrons' Council, so that the outlook there is hopeful. In Australia, the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association was founded in Sydney in 1899, and a School League, known as the Prince Alfred Hospital Graduates' Reunion, has also been organized by Miss McGahey, Matron of the Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney. There is also a Canadian Nurses' Association, and the General Hospital, Toronto, has a flourishing Alumnae Association.

Mention must also be made of the fact that Cape Colony is at present the only country which has secured the legal Registration of Nurses, an Act promulgating this measure having been passed, chiefly through the efforts of Sister Henrietta, of Kimberley, in 1891. Any person who falsely pretends to be a trained nurse registered under this Act is liable to a fine, or to imprisonment, with or without hard labour. Thus interests of well qualified nurses are, to some extent, protected.

NURSING LITERATURE.

It is satisfactory that nursing journals are on the increase, and the NURSING RECORD no longer holds the field as the only nursing paper edited by a trained nurse. The event of the year in nursing journalism has been the advent of the *American Journal of Nursing*, the official organ of the National Associated Alumnae of the United States, a monthly paper ably edited by Miss S. F. Palmer, of the Rochester City Hospital, N.Y., and a strong editorial staff. Some of the Alumnae Associations also issue papers of their own.

In this country, *League News*, the half-yearly magazine of the Bart's League, made its appearance in 1899, and the nurses of the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum also bring out a paper of their own.

In Holland, two papers cater for the needs of Dutch nurses. *Maandblad*, the organ of the Dutch Nursing Association, and *Nosokomos*, of the Dutch Association for furthering the interests of male and female nurses.

It is with great satisfaction that we note the current of the day running in the direction of the multiplication of nursing journals and magazines. We consider it one of the most hopeful signs of the times, for not only does it prove that our ranks contain an increasing number of women who possess the literary ability and knowledge of affairs requisite to the successful conduct of a paper, but it also proves that nurses are beginning to have a greater appreciation of the power of the press than they have hitherto displayed. It would be impossible to close the century with a more hopeful sign.

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