

Case 3 contains copies of papers relating to the engagement of probationers, and the supervision of nurses, all training papers and district books being shown, and Case 4 shows the information furnished to local committees. It will thus be seen that the exhibit is a very exhaustive one.

### **The Hospital World.**

#### **THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, GREAT ORMOND ST.**

First in the field of Children's Hospitals, the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, still holds a foremost place amongst the institutions devoted to the alleviation of the saddest form of suffering, that of little children.

Recently, besides the great boon of an open space and garden secured by the purchase of the Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth next door, alterations and improvements have been made in the operating-theatre, a spacious and convenient room for the purpose. The walls are now lined with white marble, and the floor has been relaid with terazzo. This gives the theatre a charming appearance, but the chief advantage is that the whole room is washable. Much of the furniture is quite up to date, but there is still some woodwork in the framework of a cupboard, and other oddments, the lack of a glass and metal cupboard being due (plutocrats please note) not to want of aspiration on the part of the Committee or the medical and nursing staff, but to the common and sordid reason of lack of funds. Let us hope that some one will come forward to present these costly but desirable appliances. Passing along the spacious corridors, with their well-kept flooring of warm red tiles, one passes by the wing where are the wards devoted to the isolation of doubtful or suspicious cases, and then right on to the very top of the hospital, where a ward of 16 beds has been recently set apart for cases of whooping cough. It is noticeable what tiny mites occupy most of the cots here. Indeed, the Matron, Miss Gertrude Payne, says that the ward is an exceptionally heavy one, and requires a larger staff of nurses than the ordinary ones. This can be readily understood when we remember that in each cot is a tiny child, or infant, subject to severe paroxysms of coughing, and that while they last the patient demands the entire attention of a nurse. It is not too much to say that by opening this ward, and giving skilled medical and nursing care to children with whooping cough, the committee of this hospital will be the means of saving many lives.

### **The American Nursing World.**

#### **THE NEW YORK STATE NURSES' CONVENTION**

*By Our Special Correspondent.*

The following account of the foundation of an Association in New York State for the definite purpose of obtaining State Registration for nurses, will be read with deep interest by British nurses. Our American colleagues have been conspicuous for the ability with which they have organized their professional Associations, through which they are able to take counsel with one another, and by which they are articulate to the world. But this is the first time that they have combined to obtain legal status, and their procedure is of supreme importance to nurses all the world over. In America matters of this kind are settled by the State Legislature, and it is fitting that New York State, where the first training school for nurses in the United States was organized, should be the first to initiate a movement for professional enfranchisement.

#### **THE BEGINNING OF THE END.**

The New York State Nurses' Convention met in Albany on April 16th. Through the courtesy of Dr. McDonald and the Mayor of the city, the Council Chamber of the City Hall was placed at the disposal of the nurses.

The convention was called to order by the Chairman of the State Committee on Organizing a Convention, Miss Sylveen Nye, of Buffalo, who addressed the meeting. Miss Nye said in part: "Some one has said, 'Know what you want to do, then do it.' We have met here to form a New York State Nurses' Association, the object of which shall be to raise the standard of the nursing profession; to make better nurses; to help those of us already in the work to be broader, more intelligent, more useful; to help us to grow, to develop; for association means growth, means development.

"We believe the proper means of attaining this desired purpose is by suitable legislation: not a legislation by a few for a few, but legislation that will affect all nurses and hospitals beneficially, that will bring about better teaching, better conditions for all nurses, better nursing for all classes of people, and legal recognition of our profession.

"Granted that we know what we want to do, and why, do we know how it is best to be accomplished? That brings me to the purpose of this meeting. To quote from a recent editorial of the *American Journal of Nursing*, the question is not, 'Shall we organize?' but 'How shall we organize?'

"Again, quoting from a recent editorial in the

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)