

on those who seek for free medical aid. There have sprung up in late years admirable societies for collecting and distributing money for the use of Hospitals. The Sunday Fund, then the Saturday Fund, and now the Prince of Wales' Fund. As these Societies are in the hands of business men, they have no doubt, by careful selection and inspection, done much to bring the Hospitals into line and to increase their efficiency. The governing Boards of Hospitals are now largely composed of business men who have experience in the handling of great sums of money, and who give their time most ungrudgingly to the service of the Hospitals.

The Social Side of the Congress.

I am of opinion that the social side of a Congress of workers is more valuable than the statistical and professional points brought out in formal papers, and the truth of this opinion is verified by the gathering of delegates now together under the hospitable roof of The Castle Inn in Buffalo. Here are located all the foreign delegates, and the officers of the Organizing Committee of the Congress, and at meals, in corridors, parlours, and bed-rooms, there are constant informal meetings, discussions, questions, consultations, just all the time. It is in these intimate relations that we get to know one another, and express to one another our hopes and fears, our aims and professional ambitions, exchange experiences and compare notes. The simplicity and kindness of our American hostesses is altogether delightful, one and all vie in showing their guests every honour and consideration. Indeed, we all feel in excellent spirit for the opening of the great Congress to-morrow, at which it is anticipated there will be a very full gathering, and at the opening session of which Miss Isla Stewart will read her Paper on "The Administration of Hospitals in Great Britain."

Every one here seems to realise that all work and no play is by no means an ideal condition of affairs, so that after work, every afternoon and evening is to be devoted to social functions. So far as the delegates arrive it transpires that although on duty intent, they have had a "real lovely time" by the way.

A DELEGATE.

The New President of the Associated Alumnae.

Miss Annie Damer, President of the Buffalo Nurses' Association, and Superintendent of the Charity Organization Society of that city, has been elected to succeed to the Presidency of the Associated Alumnae. She is a very bright, practical and popular member of the organization.

The American Society of Superintendents.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses met at two o'clock on Monday, September 16th, in the Woman's Educational and Industrial Union, on Niagara Square, in Buffalo. The President, Miss Keating, Superintendent of Nurses in the Erie County Hospital, was in the chair. The proceedings were begun by the passage of a resolution sending a telegram of sympathy to Mrs. McKinley, on the lamented death of the President of the United States. The President then gave a short address of welcome, and thirty-five members responded to the roll-call. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read, and the Treasurer's report approved, a short business session was begun. Routine business only was the order of the day. The Society had the agreeable privilege of seating as guests Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the Honorary President of the Congress and President of the International Council of Nurses; Miss Isla Stewart, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and President of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland; Miss Mollett, Matron of the Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital, and Delegate to the Congress from the Matrons' Council; Miss Cartwright, Delegate from the Registered Nurses' Society; Miss Waind, Delegate from the League of St. Bartholomew's Nurses; and Miss McGahey, Matron of the Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, and Delegate to the Congress from the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association.

There were several committee reports of interest. Mrs. Robb, chairman of the standing committee on the special course on Hospital Economics at Teachers' College, Columbia University, gave a detailed account of the work of the class in the past year, and of the prospects and plans for the future, and of the financial situation, with the need of endowment of a chair for the proper conduct of the course.

The report of the joint committee on affiliation with the Associated Alumnae was read by the Secretary, showing that the union of the American Society of Superintendents with the Associated Alumnae was complete, and that under the name "The American Federation of Nurses," the dues had been paid, which admitted the Federation into the National Council of Women of the United States.

The Society then resolved that its President and first Vice-President should continue to represent it in the Federation, and gave authority to its representatives to join in choosing one member of the Federation Committee as President of the Federation, to represent it in the National Council of

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)