

experienced women as to the necessity for State Registration of Nurses are unanswerable, and the most determined opponent of legal status for trained nurses can bring forward no argument which can in the slightest degree minimize the importance of this unanimity of thought and purpose amongst the leading Superintendents of Nurse Training Schools in every country where nursing has attained to the dignity of a skilled profession, nor suggest for an instant with any hope of convincing the public that the women who have come out of the ranks to support this resolution are not eminently competent to form an opinion on this question or that they are actuated by any other than the highest motives.

The importance of this unanimous vote in support of the State Registration of Nurses cannot any longer be ignored by those who are responsible for the education and status of trained nurses, and for the care of the sick.

We hope, therefore, that for the future all party spirit will be eliminated from the discussion of the question, and that a united effort will be made by all those interested in the ennobling and beneficent work of nursing to approach it in a liberal and generous spirit.

We give below the resolution, which was passed enthusiastically and unanimously by the Congress, standing:—

"Whereas, The nursing of the sick is a matter closely affecting all classes of the community in every land;

Whereas, To be efficient workers nurses should be carefully educated in the important duties which are now allotted to them;

Whereas, At the present time there is no generally accepted term or standard of training, nor system of education, nor examination for nurses in any country.

Whereas, There is no method, except in South Africa, of enabling the public to discriminate between trained nurses and ignorant people who assume that title; and,

Whereas, This is a fruitful source of injury to the sick and of discredit to the nursing profession, it is the opinion of this International Congress of Nurses, in general meeting assembled, that it is the duty of the nursing profession of every country to work for suitable legislative enactment regulating the education of nurses, and protecting the interests of the public by securing State examination and public registration, with the proper penalties for enforcing the same."

Annotations.

GUY'S HOSPITAL.

Sir Joseph Dimsdale, M.P., Lord Mayor-Elect, has promised to preside at a Mansion House meeting to be held early in January, in furtherance of the appeal of the Committee of Guy's Hospital for increased support. It is not only desired to raise the annual income of the hospital from voluntary sources to £25,000 a year, but also a sum of £180,000 is required to bring the structural arrangements and the equipment of the hospital up to modern requirements. Amongst the additions which have been found to be necessary is a new Nurses' Home, which is now being built, and which Her Majesty the Queen has consented to open next year, and in which every nurse will have a room to herself. This is one of the objects for which the hospital is asking donations. The rebuilding of the outpatient department is also urgently necessary, and the laundry plant, and the lighting and heating arrangements of the hospital need bringing up to date. It is noteworthy that no contribution is asked for towards the support of the Medical School. The whole £180,000 appealed for at the present time, if provided by the public, is to be utilized directly for the benefit of the patients and their proper nursing.

SCIENTIFIC HOUSEKEEPING.

The Chelsea Polytechnic has done useful work by opening a school of home training for women, for the ignorance of the majority of women on the things which it behoves them to know is colossal. The head of the household management department is Miss Wahlers, who holds a first-class diploma from the Liverpool Technical College. She finds that the prevailing ignorance on subjects connected with domestic economy compels her to begin her course of lessons with instruction in the most elementary details. Demonstrative and practical instruction are given in house-cleaning, the management of lamps, and the keeping of stores, lessons are also given in household book-keeping, and business methods. Other useful subjects are cookery, housewifery, laundry-work, millinery, and the training of children. It is evident that such a course will be of great benefit to a large number of women whose education in these practical matters has been deficient or altogether neglected. The lowest fees for lectures are £3 a term.

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