

the wished-for information to all those who are wanting their services.

4. The Home is to be the place, where everyone, throughout our whole country, may find mental nurses fit for their task.

III. *De Nederlandsche Vereeniging tot bevordering der belangen van Verpleegsters en Verplegers*, the Dutch Association for furthering the interests of female and male nurses, with its official organ "Nosokòmos," a monthly.

This Association, founded in May, 1900, must still prove its vital and active power.

And so I have come to the end of my task, deeply convinced of the incompleteness of my work, but also hoping, that I may have given you at least some idea of the present state of things in our Dutch nursing-world.

I feel assured, that I am speaking in the name of all Dutch nurses, when I express the hope that the Congress of Nurses at Buffalo will be a great and brilliant success.

C. A. LA BASTIDE BAARSLAG.

Amsterdam,

July, 1901.

Nurses' Examinations.

ROYAL UNITED HOSPITAL, BATH.

At the Final Examination for Third Year Nurses recently held at the Royal United Hospital, Bath, five nurses presented themselves for examination, all of whom were successful in gaining the certificate of the Hospital.

Order of Merit.

Miss Edith Annie Hobbs, Gold Medallist.
Miss Ada Maria Newell, Silver Medallist.
Miss Lotty Mary Garratt.
Miss Edith Annie George.
Miss Ada Gayton.

The examiners were Richard Scott, Esq., F.R.C.S., and Gilbert Bannatyne, Esq., M.D., the former senior surgeon and the latter senior physician on the Honorary Staff of the Hospital.

The medals were the gift of the Rev. E. Handley, President of the Hospital.

The examination for Second Year Nurses was most satisfactory.

Order of Merit.

Miss Mildred Cope.
Miss Cordelia Mackay.
Miss Mabel Rees.
Miss Elizabeth Williams.
Miss Edith Chappell.

The first and second nurses on list were presented with medical books, the gift of Mrs. Handley, wife of the President.

The International Congress of Nurses.

MORNING SESSION,

Wednesday, September 18th, 1901.

HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION IN AMERICA.

By MISS MAUD BANFIELD,

(*Superintendent Polyclinic Hospital, Philadelphia.*)

Part of an able paper under the above heading was read by Miss Maud Banfield, the Hon. Secretary of the Congress—but as Miss Banfield intends at an early date to elaborate and publish a paper on the question we will content ourselves with quoting it in part, always bearing in mind that the criticisms bear upon the management of municipal hospitals as apart from general endowed hospitals founded and managed by private persons. In England we have nothing analogous to the State-supported hospitals found in the larger American cities, except those conducted under the poor law, our poor law infirmaries, and those under the management of the Metropolitan Asylums Board. Miss Banfield's remarks do not therefore refer to those splendid, and in most instances ably conducted institutions in the United States, to which many of the best medical and nursing schools are attached.

HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION IN AMERICA.

The first to suffer from the maladministration of an institution are undoubtedly the patients. The public does not realize this yet, nor that it is possible for them—the public—to set it right, but it is, nevertheless, true. If too much is left to young and utterly inexperienced men; if the food is badly served, is unsuitable, or the patients subject to undue interruptions, if a mean and petty spirit pervade the institution instead of one of cheerfulness and peace; if the visit-staff do not visit, if through interest, professional jealousy, or if for other all too common reasons, incompetent men are appointed on this staff, it is the patient who suffers primarily.

No business is conducted with so little real inspection, no doll's repair shop is conducted with so little skilled labour or, when supplied, has the skilled labour so many adverse conditions to struggle against as the average hospital in the cities of America. As for the balance sheets and reports, we know that the statistics quoted therein are not worth the paper they are printed on, are more often meant to obscure than to inform, and in any other business would land those responsible therefor in the bankruptcy courts, if not in the penitentiary.

These are sweeping statements, but I know of no reason why I should not sweep, and many

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