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Editorial.

THE CITIZEN NURSE.

One of the most distinct notes struck at the recent International Congress of Nurses at Buffalo was that the obligations of the trained nurse do not end with the efficient performance of her own special work, but that she must appreciate the duties of citizenship if she is to rise to the highest attainable level. In our own paper on the "Organization and Registration of Nurses" this feeling found expression in the following words:

Now is the time to assure probationers that it is not enough that they attain technical proficiency. Unwearied devotion to the sick—obedience to medical directions—these lessons have been taught, and well assimilated in the past, and have resulted in prodigious self-sacrifice, and the crowning of many martyrs in the battalions of the great army of nurses all over the world. This fine devotion to duty is mainly the result of the lessons received by nurses during their training from high-minded women placed in authority over them. It is magnificent, but it is not enough. In addition to a fine example in all the domestic virtues, and in selfless devotion in the practical care of the sick, our young nurses must be inspired also with a keen sense of citizenship, so that when they leave the training school they will be fully alive to the importance of their public and professional duties, and be ready to enter their corporate life in the right

spirit, the spirit which asks not what it is to receive but what it can give. For this, after all, is the essence of professional as opposed to commercial existence.

And, again, pleading for the Higher Education of Nurses, at the great meeting held in the Temple of Music, on Trained Nurses' Day, we said:—

To pass from the consideration of the theoretical and technical curriculum of nursing education. A nurse cannot live by learning alone. We must consider also her Fantasy and Heart. The heart must be cultivated with as much assiduity as the understanding. True excellence of character is usually acquired by self-cultivation, by patient and unwearied endeavour, and it is founded on the conviction that intellectual attainments are those which can alone exalt the mind, that pure and virtuous feelings are those which can alone adorn it. To this end we would have nurses come into touch with all that is purest, wisest, and most potent for good in this beautiful world, to do which they must take their part in the civil and social movements of the time, realise the obligations of citizenship, and appreciate at their true value national and international events. They must live with others, not altogether for them.

The same point was brought forcibly forward by Miss Amy Hughes, in her recent speech at Prince's, at the reception given by the Society of American Women in London, to the Delegates to the Congress. After describing her visits to some of the District

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