

healthy houses, I hear always the same remark, "We can't find good rooms," and the requests for me to find rooms are numerous and difficult to comply with.

After revealing conditions in Yonkers, some good citizens remodelled old houses and put them in sanitary condition, and it has proved a financial success. There is a woman rent-collector who collects weekly, which is safer for the landlord and easier for the tenant, and with it goes a supervision which is of great value to both. With improved homes we have better health and better citizenship, which is all-important to a nation.

What larger field of usefulness could we wish for than to go from house to house and give the people the benefit of our knowledge of sanitation, hygiene, and domestic science.

A great English statesman has said, "Of what use is sanitary legislation unless it is practically applied?" and only by obtaining the co-operation of every housekeeper with the Board of Health can rules and laws be enforced.

Let there be well-trained women to do this work. As Dr. Benjamin Lee, president of the State Board of Health, said: "Women are born sanitarians, and make better teachers; besides, they attend to detail work, and I would say, the work is essentially among women. No matter what the condition of the house, a woman is admitted because she will understand, when a man cannot enter, and very often the remark is made, 'I am so glad it is a woman this time.'"

After inspecting rooms, closets, and bedding, I am made acquainted with the sorrows, the wants, and sometimes the joys of the family, and I seldom leave without having given advice or help, or put them in the way to help themselves. The invitation to call again soon or spend Sunday with the family shows that the visit has been appreciated.

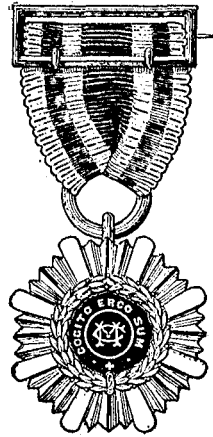
The field for usefulness is large, and the work fills one's life to the utmost. While it is hard to bear so many people's burdens, the thought that this work is a step in the right direction gives new courage and hope.

I hope to live long enough to see more cities take up this work. Only those women who love the people and will work for public service and not personal gain should take it up. It is the hardest work I have ever done, and it requires courage and a good deal of faith to enter into all places.

May more nurses prepare for this work, and indeed be the friends of the people.

It is the true mission of the Board of Health to take up this work, and may there be enough public-spirited men and women in every city to see to it that the large class of working-people at least have healthy homes.

The Matrons' Council.



The Matrons' Council will hold its Fourth Annual Conference at the Medical Society's Rooms, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, on Thursday, May 29th, at 2.30 p.m. Miss Isla Stewart, the President, will preside.

The Programme includes:—

1. Presidential Address.
2. "The Treatment by Heat of Chronic Ear Disease," by Macleod Yearsley, Esq., F.R.C.S.
3. "The Nursing of Tuberculosis," Miss Helen Todd, Matron of the National Hospital for Consumption, Bournemouth.
4. "Nursing Ethics," Miss Mollett, Matron Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital.

A Presentation of a Purse will then be made to Miss Margaret Breay, in recognition of her devoted and untiring work for the Matrons' Council for the past five years, for which period she has acted as its Hon. Secretary, work which every member recognises has done much to place the Council in its present influential and successful position.

Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses.

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS IN SUPPORT OF THE MOVEMENT.

Morley Hall, 26, George Street, Hanover Square.
FRIDAY, MAY 30TH.

11 a.m.
Meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. Miss Isla Stewart, President, in the chair. A Report will be presented by the Registration Sub-Committee.

12 noon.
Formation of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. Miss Louisa Stevenson (President-elect), in the chair.

Agenda:

1. To adopt a Constitution.
 2. To appoint an Executive Committee.
 3. To elect the Hon. Officers.
- Other Business.

3 p.m.
Public Meeting in favour of State Registration of Nurses. Address by Miss Louisa Stevenson.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)