

workers. What honour is theirs! Heaven willed to constitute them the leaders in the movement through which we hope for some of the greatest blessings that are to come to the sick and suffering in these first years of our new century.

Besides all these which are peculiarly our own incentives to effort for our profession, there are yet many others which demand our careful thought, but whose consideration at length must be omitted here by reason of the want of time and space.

Work on sociological lines should be encouraged in the local alumnae associations. Ways and means of preparing for the future should receive some attention, and this preparation should include something more than the provision for the wants of the body. Since our work is particularly absorbing, our tendency is to become more and more unfit for the ordinary walks of life, and to eventually find ourselves stranded upon the bleak shores of time without so much as an occupation. Hence, in all our preparations for the future, it is well that to provide resources for spending time be not neglected; as an eminent historian says, "So long as man is anxious about the future, the future is secure. Only when he falls into apathy and sleeps at his post is he in danger of relapse and decay."

Present achievements in nursing matters far exceed the expectations of Florence Nightingale or Pastor Fliedner. Even the dreams of our founders are overshadowed by the brilliancy of the realities accomplished.

We have many incitements to duty, but not one to doubt. Our history and our condition, all that is gone before us and all that is with us, justify our belief that as the trusts committed to our care are sacred, so we may hope for all things of the future.

Where to Spend a Pleasant Holiday.

Much of the enjoyment of a holiday depends upon obtaining comfortable lodgings at a moderate cost. It is, therefore, a pleasure to us to be able to assure those of our readers who visit Lowestoft that, if they are able to secure rooms with Mrs. Woods, 33, Grosvenor Road, they can rest assured they will be made most comfortable, that their housekeeping bills, if they leave the commissariat to Mrs. Woods, will be as moderate as can be, and that the house is the very pink of exquisite cleanliness. Tired housewives, to whom half the charm of a holiday is a freedom from housekeeping cares, will find it an ideal resting-place, and nurses who wish to visit this popular and attractive East coast watering-place could scarcely find themselves better done by than at 33, Grosvenor Road.

Nursing Progress in Victoria.

Una, the journal of the Victorian Trained Nurses' Association, is to hand, and from this excellent publication we learn how nursing organisation is progressing in Victoria. There are now 619 nurses on the General Register, 184 on the Special Register (*i.e.*, nurses who have received special in addition to general training), 98 nurses registered under Rule 21 (now obsolete), 48 medical members, 37 General Hospitals registered as General Training Schools, and 11 Registered Nurses' Homes.

We learn that the Board of Public Health has invited delegates from the three medical societies in Melbourne to a conference to discuss the advisability of framing a Midwives' Registration Bill. The feeling of all three societies is opposed to such a measure, and their representatives at the conference will speak in accordance with that feeling.

The conditions in Victoria are not analogous to those which obtain in England. In the first place, in the obstetric department of the Women's Hospital, Melbourne, more than 1,200 women are delivered annually under more favourable conditions than those in their own homes.

Again, the number of untrained women practising midwifery is small, and in comparatively few instances do they undertake the entire responsibility of the case. Further, no certificate of midwifery is issued in the Colony, and no woman can begin a course of training in the only training-school in the State—the Women's Hospital, Melbourne—which will qualify her as an obstetric nurse, unless she has previously had three years' training at a recognised general hospital and has obtained by examination the certificate of the Victorian Trained Nurses' Association.

For these and other reasons a Midwives' Registration Bill for Victoria is considered "both unnecessary and impracticable."

Commenting on the statement of a New York correspondent as to the opposition offered to the Nurses' Registration Bill by doctors with commercial private hospitals, *Una* says:—"It says a good deal for the medical profession of this country (Victoria) that the doctors have worked harder than the nurses themselves to establish the registration of nurses. The few who embark in the commercial enterprise of keeping private hospitals have offered slight opposition to the Association's refusal to recognise pupils trained in such private institutions."

It is usually the commercial as opposed to the professional interest that causes the opposition raised in any country to the movement for the State Registration of Nurses.

It is shortly intended to establish in connection with the military forces of Victoria an army

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