

eyes to read the signs, that there is something radically wrong with the habits of these folk. It is not the food they have, for far less than most eat will keep them in fit condition; if it were not so, how could Hodge have such a healthy appearance when he scarcely sees butcher's meat the whole year round and brings up a numerous family on 10s. to 15s. per week. Dry, deoxygenised, half-poisonous air, continually breathed, whether at home or at his work, asleep or active, and God's first creation, light, served out to him in stinted quantities, have far more to answer for in this respect, than the absence of roast beef or even turtle soup.

May the reflection stir us all to an instant, energetic, and effectual remedy.

(To be continued.)

The American Nursing World.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

More congratulations to our American sisters. This time to the nurses of California. Their State Registration Bill was signed by Governor Pardee on March 22nd. We are told the struggle was bitter and the concessions many, but legal status has been attained. We heartily congratulate the Californian nurses who have led this measure to victory. California has the honour to be the seventh State to grant professional enfranchisement to its trained nurses.

In Massachusetts, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania the nurses for the time being have sustained defeat, but we do not know the American nurse if such disappointment does not act as a spur to fresh effort to attain the goal they have set before them. For the nurses of these States we pigeon-hole our congratulations, for use on a future occasion.

The nurses of Washington, Illinois, Michigan and Connecticut have all Bills before their respective legislatures. As yet the result of these efforts is not to hand.

The Rhode Island Association of Graduate Nurses was incorporated according to the laws of Rhode Island last January. On March 1st a meeting was held to discuss the Bill which the Association hopes to present to the Legislature this year.

In order to comply with the requirements of the law in New York State many hospitals that have been classed as "general" in character are having to arrange for affiliation with special hospitals where experience in children's, contagious, or obstetrical work can be obtained under proper conditions. Already there are a number of instances of such affiliations having been satisfactorily arranged, and many schools are looking for such opportunities.

The Annual Meeting of the American Society of Superintendents of Training-Schools, and the

Annual Convention of the Nurses' Associated Alumnae are always events of great interest in the nursing world. This year the importance of these two gatherings will be exceptional, for meeting together in the capital in the first week in May they have arranged that Wednesday, May the 3rd, shall be observed as "Federation Day," and the two Societies, which have united to form the Federation of American Nurses, will meet and consider the question of "International Relationships."

We hear on all sides that American nurses are enthusiastic for the strengthening of the bonds of the world's Sisterhood of Nurses. The two Societies represented in the Federation include every leading Matron and nurse in the United States, and, far advanced in organisation and in the raising of educational standards as these women are, they require less support from the nurses of other nations than any of their colleagues. The fact, therefore, that they are prepared to throw in the weight of their enormous influence to give that solidarity to the International Council of Nurses, which cannot be given in like degree by the nurses of any other nation, is but one more proof of the liberal-minded generosity with which they are prepared to extend the helping hand to those less fortunately circumstanced.

It is always well to see ourselves as others see us, and the following remarks in this month's *American Journal of Nursing* on "The Situation in England" are therefore of interest. That journal says:—

We referred briefly in our last issue to the new society that had been formed in England called "The Incorporated Society for Promoting the Higher Education and Training of Nurses."

The object of this society, so far as we understand it, is to establish a system of voluntary registration instead of State Registration, and to exercise a controlling policy in regard to all matters of nursing education and practice. While the motive for the formation of this new society is claimed by some to be to harmonise the various forces for so long in an attitude of antagonism and bring order and peace out of a most deplorable condition of chaos, the effect has really been to cause such an explosion as has never been dreamed of in nursing affairs before.

The Matrons' Council and the Society for Promoting State Registration have come out in strong opposition to the Incorporated Society, and at a mass meeting held in London on February 22nd, resolutions were passed protesting against its incorporation by the Board of Trade of the City of London, and a Committee was appointed to present these resolutions to the President of the Board of Trade, *provided he would consent to receive them*. Mr. Sydney Holland, who is one of the bitterest opponents of State Registration, is equally opposed to the Incorporated Society. Miss Catherine J. Wood is in favour of it, and so far as we can understand conditions at this distance, the registration movement in Great Britain has boiled over out of the frying-pan into the fire. We can only await developments, extending our sympathies to the State Registration party.

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