

vinces, remain modest, and do not bring through prejudice and party spirit discredit on our Public Institutions, with the very human, but not always justifiable object of extolling and advertising themselves. It is much easier to shine in enterprises, carried out in a small way in a private school, than to organise in a moment all the system of training and instruction for the nursing staff of the Paris Hospitals. . . . Let me be allowed to Monsieur G. Mesureur, the intensely devoted *Directeur Général* of the *Assistance Publique* of Paris, for serious reform, above all, let the money he requires be obtained for him, and the nursing staff of the Paris hospitals will serve not as a target, but as a model.

As to what concerns the International Conference of *Infirmières*, which is to take place next year, we invite all those who are of independent thought to join us, so that the *infirmières* and *gardes-malades* of France, be they municipal or private, be they lay, or Catholic or Protestant, may be worthily represented at the Conference.

There are ladies of worth and devotion, of all varieties of thought and mind, who would perform a fine work, in uniting themselves for the good of our French *infirmières* and nurses. But it is to be feared that some school or other will wish to claim superiority over others, and to play the part of preponderance and of absorption of others.

In this case divided efforts will produce a minimum of results, and such and such a sectarian school will have neither more nor less influence than it can singly command or possess.

As to ourselves, whatever happens, we shall go on all the same, placing our feet exclusively on *professional and lay soil*.

SECULARISATION OF THE HOTEL DIEU DE PARIS.

Monsieur G. Mesureur, *Directeur-General* of the *Assistance Republique* of Paris, has been heard by the Fifth Commission of the Municipal Council on the subject of the best means to be taken for the secularisation of l'Hotel Dieu and the Hospital of Saint Louis which from their foundation have been under the same management.

Monsieur Navarre, Municipal Councillor, did not seem to favour the idea of simply removing the Sisters (St. Augustin) and passing them on to the Hospital Boucicaut, in which hospital the service must be legally assured by the nuns.

The *Matin* announces that the results of the experiments conducted in five German University surgeries with Dr. Behring's tulose show that it can easily be taken by healthy persons or invalids in the form of sub-cutaneous injections without any harmful reaction. Dr. Heubner, chief surgeon to the Hospital for Sick Children in Berlin, in a letter to Dr. Behring, describes the effects of the tulose treatment, especially when employed against scrofulosis, a malady in which tuberculosis of the bronchial ganglions is nearly always found. What particularly struck him was the extremely rapid disappearance of eczema and ophthalmia in scrofulous children when tulon was used.

The American Nursing World.

THE REPORT OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SUPERINTENDENTS.

The Report of the American Society of Superintendents of Training School for Nurses is always most interesting, and that recently issued is full of valuable information.

Miss Annie W. Goodrich in her Presidential address at the Twelfth Annual Convention, said many wise things. Here is one, in relation to the three years' course of training: "Not one of our pupils would deny that nurses need to acquire many soldierly qualities if they are to go out properly equipped for their many opportunities of splendid unselfish service to the people. Yet perhaps few of them appreciate that our insistence on the three years' course is in no wise to benefit the hospital service, but because we realise, as Washington so tersely puts it, 'the firmness requisite for the real business of fighting is only to be attained by a constant course of discipline and service.' Our experience should serve us as vision, and our memories should not fail us where their welfare is concerned."

The subject of economy is one which was fully-discussed, and the papers there presented will repay careful study. Training in economy, the economical furnishing and equipment of children's hospitals or wards, economy in the use of surgical supplies, economy in surgical technique, and so on.

Dr. John Brannan, President of the Board of Trustees of Bellevue and Allied Hospitals, discussed economy in surgical surplus. At Bellevue the problem has been attacked in two ways, through the surgeons, and through the superintendents of the Training Schools. After discussion a set of rules was prepared and submitted to the Medical Boards of the various hospitals, which are now in force in all, with the result that a very considerable saving has been effected, but a great deal more has been accomplished through the superintendents of training schools.

Thus a year ago, Miss Delano, Superintendent at Bellevue suggested that she should be put in charge of the distribution of surgical supplies to the wards which previously had been sent from the drug department. A great saving was effected, and the surgeons noticed no difference. It is claimed that great saving has been effected at Boston by the sterilisation of gauze, which, if so treated, can be used with safety over and over again. Dr. Brannan, in conclusion, pointed out that an important point in bringing about this economy through nurses was that they received something they had not yet had from the hospital, namely, training in economy. "You hear persons say," he said (do we not all know it), "that they fear to have nurses come to the house, not because of the 25 dols. a week, but because of the equal amounts spent in other ways."

Miss M. N. Macdonald pointed out that "a distinct lack of conscience is frequently seen in the reckless and deliberate misuse of the property of the 'institution' by both men and women who would probably

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