

The Bart's Gold Medal.

There is always a very keen competition for the Gold Medal given by the Clothworkers' Company to the Nurse who comes out first in the final examination, and the prize of books, given by the same City Corporation to the probationer who heads the list in the first examination. This time the winner of the Gold Medal is Miss Lilian Crump, and the books have been gained by Miss G. C. Robson.

Progress of State Registration.

The nurses in Georgia, U.S.A., evidently throw enormous energy into their professional organisation, and events move swiftly. The State Association was formed this year, it drafted a Registration Bill in May, and an excellent self-governing Bill it is, and it was passed by the General Assembly on a unanimous vote, fifteen minutes before midnight on August 17th, the closing night of the Session. Five days later it received the signature of the Governor! The stars in their courses evidently joined issue with the nurses of Georgia, and their legislators, without doubt, maintain the Southern traditions of chivalry to women.

Nothing could more demonstrate the contemptuous estimation in which women's work and sex are held by men in this country than to compare the manner in which they have opposed the English nurses' just demands with the manner in which our American cousins have been treated by the General Assembly of the State of Georgia.

Scottish Nurses' Club.

The Committee of the Scottish Nurses' Club have taken a house in Castle Street, Edinburgh, and hope to open it early in December. At present they are arranging an entertainment, to be given in the end of November, particulars of which will be given later. The aims of the club are social and professional advancement.

There will be a tea-room, reading and writing room, and also a recreation room. Later on, as the club grows, it is hoped to provide luncheons and bedrooms. The Club will be open daily from 9 a.m. till 8.30 p.m. Sundays 2-6 p.m. It is also hoped to arrange lectures during the winter months, bearing on professional subjects. Membership is open to all nurses in Scotland, who can join by writing to the Secretary, Miss Mabel Halkett, Piffirane, Dunfermline, Fife.

Trained Women Nurses in Asylums.

On Friday last Lord Balfour of Burleigh opened the new Nurses' Home at the Stirling District Asylum, which provides accommodation for 85 nurses. Much consideration has been given by the Architects, Dr. Robertson, and the Matron, Miss Macgregor, to its design, and it includes, besides the ordinary accommodation, a library and lecture room, where lectures will be delivered, and which the nurses may use for study. The night nurses' rooms have been arranged at the top of the building, and altogether the plans for the comfort of the nursing staff seem to have been thoroughly thought out.

At the luncheon, which succeeded the opening ceremony, Lord Balfour of Burleigh said that in former times the ideal attendant of a lunatic asylum was either a strong powerful man or a big boned woman of commanding presence. Nowadays the hospital succeeded the prison, and solitary confinement was for the most part a thing of the past.

Nowhere is there to be found a more progressive Medical Superintendent than Dr. Robertson, of the Stirling Asylum, Larbert, who is a keen advocate of the employment of women nurses in the care of the insane, and of placing nurses with hospital as well as asylum training in responsible posts. The result of this policy is demonstrated at the Stirling District Asylum, where the use of the strait jacket is unknown, and the padded rooms are turned into store rooms.

It is sometimes contended that women should not be placed in charge of insane men, but in practice it has been proved at Larbert that they have a most extraordinary power over them. Excited male patients who would fight a nurse of their own sex, are quite tractable with a woman, and, owing to the employment of well trained women nurses, the whole atmosphere of the Asylum has become changed. Indeed, in many Scottish asylums similar evolution is taking place, and in this evolution a very important part is played by the trained nurse, whose influence is becoming a dominant one. The hospitalisation of the Asylums means that they are no longer merely places where the insane are cared for, but are, as they should be, institutions for their treatment and cure. The value of trained nursing is sometimes discounted, but when such results can be pointed to as having arisen from its introduction into asylums nurses may take heart of grace.

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