

burgh, were held in the afternoon and evening, many eminent artistes giving their delightful services. In the afternoon, Lady Helen Munro Ferguson spoke at the opening in presence of a large gathering. She stated that they were there to raise money to furnish a club for the trained nurses of Scotland, premises for which had already been taken in Castle Street. Edinburgh was a great medical centre, and as they were aware there was very little spare accommodation where the sick were, and very little opportunity for that relaxation, change from duties, and freedom from responsibility which were so very necessary for the efficiency and welfare of the nurses. The promoters of this club consequently thought that if there was a place where nurses could meet to enjoy relaxation and social intercourse it would be a great advantage. She hoped this club would lead ultimately to closer co-operation between Scottish nurses, and would prove a very active and effective combination to advance the interests of the profession.

At the evening concert Dr. Haig Ferguson said he was sure all nurses and friends of nurses would be greatly pleased to see Miss Florence Nightingale had been awarded the Order of Merit, the first lady to be so honoured, and that lady a nurse. He spoke on the advantages of a social club to nurses, and pointed out how those who had appreciated the services of nurses could help forward the club by showing their appreciation in a practical manner.

The Dublin branch of the Women's National Health Association was inaugurated last week at a well attended meeting held in the hall of the Royal College of Physicians, under the presidency of her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen, who defined as the object of the Association the diffusion of hygienic knowledge. They also wanted to make the women of Ireland determined that if they are to be responsible for the health of the homes they must have an opportunity of living in healthy houses, and they must be able to get pure food and pure milk. They wanted to insist on all women having that training in the simple laws of health and domestic economy which would enable them to keep their houses as they should be kept, be they ever so poor.

It is also hoped to establish some plan whereby dispensaries for consumptive patients will be brought before the poor of Dublin. If

this is done, the Central Branch of the Association has offered the services of two nurses when such dispensaries are established. These nurses would visit the people in their homes, and see that the medical directions are carried out there. The Association also hopes to be able to diffuse instruction as to the causes of infantile mortality, and the need of school hygiene.

The establishment of a year's course of instruction in hygiene and sanitary matters is under the consideration of the authorities of Alexandra College, Dublin.

Had we not received the pleasant notification that Miss Geneviève Cooke, the able editor of *The Nurses' Journal of the Pacific Coast*, had arrived safely home in San Francisco, this month's issue of her interesting Journal would have announced the fact. Nowhere does a strong personality stamp itself more determinedly than in journalism, and every page printed under the selection of Miss Cooke is worth reading.

In referring to the never to be forgotten Paris Conference, the editor writes appreciatively of the nursing press functions, and reproduces the very interesting sheet of names of journals, their date of issue, and the signatures of editors and representatives, which she gathered amongst the guests of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING dinner on June 21st. Miss Cooke makes an excellent suggestion when she writes: "At future International meetings the professional nursing press will no doubt take an important part, and at our national meetings it would be interesting and of advantage if the representatives of the publications now issued by nursing bodies should hold a session, and just talk "shop" as a nucleus to broader visions. Let us make this beginning in 1908, when the National Meeting is held in San Francisco."

The *Nurses' Journal of the Pacific Coast* contains admirable articles on "A Visit to an Anti-toxin Laboratory," "Therapeutic Terms," and presents a charming picture of a post-graduate class at the California Hospital, Los Angeles, in which the white robed nurses, like a flock of doves, are perched on the fire escape steps in a very graceful group. We are glad for Pacific Coast nurses that their very good friend, Miss Geneviève Cooke, is once more in the editorial chair. Letters from friends on this side will find her at "The Law-rence," Grand Avenue, Oakland, California, U.S.A.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)