

biton station, and carefully and realistically removed the supposed victims of a railway accident.

The convoy then proceeded to Tandridge House, where the Sister-in-charge had already been warned to prepare for wounded. The stretcher-carrying up the steep flight of steps evoked special admiration; no less than the treatment given the patients by Sister Florence and her students.

There is no doubt that such preliminary training schools have sound practical value, so long as they are reserved for preliminary work, and are not considered an equivalent for practical clinical ward work, a thorough course of which alone fits a woman to rank as a trained nurse.

In spite of the non-attendance of European nurses at the coming Annual Convention of the American Nurses Association at San Francisco in June, there is to be a large attendance of American and Canadian nurses. The *Pacific Coast Journal of Nursing* announces that the Convention will be held in the First Congregational Church, and on Sunday evening, June 20th, Dr. Aked (late of Liverpool) will devote the service to the Convention. The title of his address will be "The Nurse: Her History and Mystery."

The Clift Hotel is to be the official headquarters, and the official excursion train from the Eastern States is timed to arrive in San Francisco in the morning of 20th June.

The United States Supreme Court has settled the controversy over the eight-hour law, which includes student nurses, by upholding the law as enacted in California.

We are pleased to note from reports in the *South African Nursing Record* (some day, let us hope, to be the *South African Journal of Nursing*, and thus come into line with the sister journals of national importance) that the South African Trained Nurses' Association is slowly making progress. Meetings to form Branches have been held at East London and Port Elizabeth. Miss Radcliffe, Matron of the Nightingale Home, East London, has been elected President of the Border Branch, and Miss C. M. Abbott, Matron of the Provincial Hospital, Port Elizabeth, President of the Eastern Province Branch. At one meeting it was agreed to invite Viscountess Buxton to be President of the South African Trained Nurses' Association—a position, in our opinion, which should, of course, be held by a member of the Nursing Profession if real professional organi-

zation is to be made on a sound foundation. High official patronage, with the best intentions in the world, can only hamper organization in its inception. Women must learn to stand on their own feet if they mean to stand upright.

His Excellency the Governor-General and Lady Buxton have already paid a visit to Kroonstad, in order to visit the Dorothy Centre of the King Edward VII Nurses; and the former unveiled the bust of King Edward, which is set in a niche above the entrance. The bust, which is of bronze by Lady Scott, was presented to the Home by Lord Gladstone, and is an excellent portrait of the late King. Lady Buxton presented two copies of the *Life of Florence Nightingale* to the Dorothy Centre—a gift greatly appreciated by the Lady Superintendent and nurses.

The *Australian Nurses' Journal* reports many members of the Association at the War. Incidentally we note that as there is no system of registration in this old country, the Council of the A.T.N.A. have to make enquiries concerning the standard of training in various hospitals and infirmaries at home. We are often asked such questions from countries where registration is in force, but usually reply: "No central examination, no standard can be guaranteed." The *Journal* contains a most interesting picture of "Nurses Sitting in Sydney for Examination"—that is, for a real test Central Exam, such as we ought to have had here twenty years ago, if the commercial exploitation of nurses had not been so lucrative.

THE REFUGE OF THE DESTITUTE.

A young woman was recently brought up at the Guildhall on a charge of theft, when it was stated that her case was a sad one. She had been under treatment in a London hospital, and was still an out-patient there. The lady almoner at the hospital had taken a great interest in her, and expressed her willingness to help her. The accused girl intimated that she wished to be trained as a nurse, and the magistrate said that he should place her under probation for six months, and then she could learn to become one if she chose!

Contrast this with the action of another magistrate who, when a delinquent begged to be let off his sentence that he might enlist in the Army, promptly told him that they were decent men in the Army, and that he was not wanted there!

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