

## NURSING PROGRESS IN INDIA.

The *Nursing Journal for India* has made great strides in recent issues, and we are pleased to observe that nurses in India are being urged to realise their professional responsibility. At home and abroad nurses must learn this lesson if they are ever to attain the respect of the public. It is because they are so apathetic that they are so powerless.

Speaking editorially, the *N.J.I.* says:—

"The decision of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales (this provision is laid down in the Nursing Registration Act) that they can accept for reciprocal registration only such of the Colonies and Dependencies as have instituted State Registration for their nurses, has made the subject of registration one of great urgency to British women trained in India, and an All-India Bill for State Registration of nurses is to be laid shortly before the Legislative Assembly at Simla. As, however, the whole policy of the Government is towards decentralisation, it seems uncertain that an All-India Bill will be approved, but rather that each Presidency will be left to deal with the question as it sees fit.

The Bombay Presidency has for some years possessed in the Bombay Presidency Nursing Association a central body for the registering and control of nurses. All the large nurse training schools in the Presidency are affiliated to it, conforming to its regulations for the engagement of probationers and nurses, and its curriculum of instruction and training. Central examinations are held twice a year in Bombay and Karachi, for which all nurses—European or Indian—trained in affiliated hospitals are obliged to sit.

The weak spot in the Bombay Presidency Nursing Association is that not a single Matron or trained nurse is a member of the central committee.

It is hoped that the Trained Nurses' Association of India, which should represent the opinions of trained nurses in all the Presidencies, will have ready shortly a carefully thought-out scheme for the training and registration of nurses in India, to bring forward when called upon.

The time has come when nurses must help themselves, and this can best be done by joining the Trained Nurses' Association of India and persuading all others they come in contact with to do so, too. An independent Association, including among its members the heads of training schools all over India, and the rank and file of the profession, would be in a position to lay its considered opinions before Governments and Nursing Associations and to obtain respectful consideration for them."

The *Nursing Journal of India* published a picture of Mrs. Starr, a charming girlish figure, holding a fine native baby.

Mrs. Starr writes:—"I was tremendously glad to be allowed to go after Molly Ellis, and felt I had got the privilege every British woman in

India must have wished she could get! So it is I who am grateful. I hope it is going to make residents and nurses in India realise what a tremendously important institution a *Mission Hospital* can be politically as in other ways, for influence."

A fund to commemorate Mrs. Starr's brave adventure is being raised, and it is hoped to provide a second Sister to help her. She is at present working single-handed except for the assistance of male Indian dressers. Subscriptions should be sent to the Manager, *Civil and Military Gazette*, Lahore, and should be marked for the C.M.S. Hospital, Peshawar Fund.

## DAILY VISITING NURSES, DUBLIN.

A most enjoyable social and whist-drive was held by the Daily Visiting Nurses at 1, Pembroke Park, Dublin (kindly lent by Miss Helen Chenevix), on Saturday, June 9th. The musical items were delightful: Miss Florence Marks, one of Dublin's foremost artistes, charmed the company, and put even the dullest in good humour with her original characteristic singing and elocution. Mr. William Smith rendered some beautiful songs, which were all too short. Miss Renie Kelly sang with much feeling, "Two Eyes of Grey" and "Vale." Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Maguire contributed most generously with their cultivated voices in "The Bandolero," "Friend of Mine," and "Until." Mr. Arthur Bonass acted as Master of Ceremonies and distributed the prizes. Mrs. Manning presided as hostess, assisted by the nurses. There were six handsome prizes, including two "booby" prizes.

It was very regrettable that Miss Louie Bennett and Miss Helena Moloney, of the Irish Women Workers' Union, were unable to be present, owing to previous engagements. Mr. Corry, T.D. Kilkenny, was also present.

Refreshments were served upstairs during intervals, and everyone present appeared to enjoy themselves thoroughly. This is only the beginning of a series of entertainments to be given to aid the Daily Visiting Nurses in their new venture. They hope that the next event to be organised will be a tennis tournament and dance out of doors. Their headquarters are at 7 and 8, Eden Quay, Dublin, and their aim is to provide nurses to the public by the hour, or otherwise, to those who do not require the services of a full-time nurse.

## COMING EVENTS.

July 19th.—St. Marylebone Hospital, Prize Giving to Probationers. Distribution by the Right Hon. Sir Douglas McGarel Hogg, K.C., M.P. 3 p.m. Tea in the garden.

July 20th.—Meeting General Nursing Council for England and Wales, Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W. 2.30 p.m.

July 30th to August 1st.—Meeting Executive Committee, International Council of Nurses, Copenhagen, Denmark.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)