

been observing the signs of the times he would have known before this that the 'common humanities' are out of date and old-fashioned in the nursing circles most active in making laws for nurses, and the leaders in the registration movement will have none of them. They have been wiped off the map, so to speak, and in their place we find frills, fads, fancies, isms, and ologies. The care of the sick and the comfort of the patient have been put aside for the so-called higher education of the student nurse. If we may judge from the statements made by some of the extremists, it is of no consequence whether a nurse can give adequate service in the sick room or not, providing we can be sure that she has a smattering of every ology under the sun"!

"The leaders in the registration movement" here alluded to include every Superintendent of a Nursing Training School of any repute on the continent of America, North and South; who have not only dared to form opinions concerning their own professional affairs, but—unforgivable crime—to express them through their own official organ, the *American Journal of Nursing!*

As an antidote to quack criticism it is pleasing to record the opinion of Dr. Winford Smith, Superintendent of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, a man of most liberal opinions and moral force; writing editorially in the first issue of that fine publication, *The Modern Hospital*. He calls attention to and protests against what he considers the undue attention given in hospital journals and hospital circles to the question of nursing. He suggests that hospitals "leave the nursing problem alone for a while, and acknowledge that it is safe and better handled in the hands of the nurses." "We all admit," he says, "the development of nursing to be one of the great achievements of our hospitals, but let us ask ourselves, Mr. Superintendent and Mr. Practising Physician, what we have ever contributed to this splendid development. Why should not boards of examiners be composed of nurses? . . . Why not be honest?" he inquires, "and if opposed to maintaining high standards and registration and all the nurses want, say that we are opposed because it may mean that our institution will have to pay more for the nursing, or because it will require some very careful study in readjustment. Let us not try to deceive ourselves and others in the belief that our opposition is because of our interest in the nursing profession or the public. No one who knows is deceived." Indeed they are not.

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE HOSPITAL.

The opening of the extension of the Florence Nightingale Hospital for Gentlewomen at 19, Lisson Grove, N.W., on Friday, November 14th, by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany, was a day to be remembered by the staff, patients, and those who were privileged by an invitation. A considerable number of people were congregated round the entrance to await the appearance of the Royal visitor. The entrance was gaily decorated with pots of palms and flowering plants. Her Royal Highness was received by the President (Earl Waldegrave), the Lady President (Mrs. William Bridgman), and others, and conducted to a large marquee, erected for the occasion, where the guests were assembled. The proceedings were opened by the presentation of a bouquet by Master David Nicholson, whom Her Royal Highness kissed heartily by way of thanks.

The Chaplain next said the prayers of dedication, and the hymns, "Thou to whom the sick and dying" and "Lord of Glory" were sung by the choir boys from a neighbouring church.

Her Royal Highness was then invited to open the extension, which she did with the words, "We declare this building open in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

The President in his address explained the objects of the hospital, which he said was to provide gratuitous surgical service to gentlewomen who were unable to incur the expense of ordinary nursing homes. The hospital was opened to all denominations and all nationalities. Patients were at liberty to have the services of their own surgeon, provided he was on the staff of a general London hospital, and that his services were gratuitous. All the beds were, he said, at that moment occupied, and there were twenty patients waiting for admission. The honoured name of Florence Nightingale had always been associated with that hospital, and that alone should be able to draw subscriptions. £500 was still required for the building fund and £200 for furnishing. £600 was required annually for maintenance.

Her Royal Highness, after the presentation of the Matron, Miss Houghton, medical staff, and architect, made a tour of inspection of the hospital, and judging by the time she spent in so doing, it must have been very complete. Visitors were allowed to follow on as she vacated each department, which naturally made progress rather slow, but there was so much to admire that it was time well spent.

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