

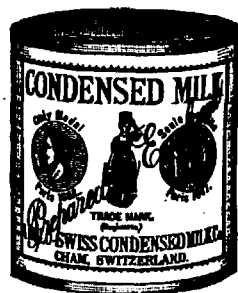
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Editorial.

HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT.—IV.

THE advantages of having ladies upon the managing board of our Hospitals would in no particular be more marked than in the opportunity which would thus be afforded of placing them upon a Special Sub-Committee to supervise the Nursing department. The scandals at the London Hospital furnish a wonderful object-lesson as to the necessity for such control, and we understand, indeed, that it is now becoming so obvious to the Governors and a considerable section of the House Committee of that Institution that such supervision is necessary, that it is only a question of time when this important reform will be made. There are some honourable men connected with the London Hospital who refuse to be made the tools and dupes of their officials,

and who realise that where there is much smoke there is almost invariably some fire. They see, moreover, that men are quite unable to control the Nursing Department, and that if they desire to regain the authority over their officials, which they have permitted to slip out of their hands, it can only be accomplished by the institution of some body whose duty it shall be to supervise and govern the entire female staff. It goes without saying that such a body should comprise some women of position, tact, and technical knowledge of Hospital management and ward work. In a large and increasing number of Nurse Training Schools, Nursing Committees are now appointed to carry out the duties to which we have referred, but in very few cases are ladies appointed to serve in this peculiar appropriate position. Still it is something that the principle of placing persons possessed of personal knowledge and experience on Hospital Committees is now becoming generally accepted as correct both in theory and practice; and so we may confidently hope that in a short time the universal addition of ladies to Hospital Boards will have become of accepted usefulness, if not of necessity.

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