

what on the lines of the R.B.N.A. Only one English Nursing delegate was present—a Miss AMY HUGHES, of the National and Metropolitan Nursing Association, and keen disappointment was experienced by the Nurses present that there were no foreign delegates, and that the papers originally promised by Princess CHRISTIAN, Miss NIGHTINGALE, Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK, and others, were not forthcoming. Miss ISABEL HAMPTON, the Chairman on the Sub-section on Nursing, read a sensible paper on 'Standards of Education for Nurses.' Miss Hampton criticised the methods as well as the character of many of the training schools now in existence. There is no uniformity, she said, in the requirements for graduates. In some the course is two years, in others two and one-half years, while in many schools in England three years is required. Not much care is taken in ascertaining the qualification of the would-be Nurses for the work before them. The idea commonly prevails that any sort of a woman can take care of the sick, but this is a mistake, Miss Hampton said. To be a good Nurse a woman must be strong mentally, morally, and physically. She recommended that steps be taken to establish a standard of education for Nurses. There should be a uniform system of instruction, with uniform requirements for graduation. The course of instruction should be three years, with eight hours of daily service in the sick-room. Miss Hampton also suggested that normal schools be established for the education of teachers in the training schools.

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It caused a lot of surprise that a paper on the subject of the 'National Pension Fund' appeared on the programme of the Nursing section, because, in this country, Nurses are strongly imbued with the responsibility of their work, and they demand and obtain liberal remuneration for their arduous labour. A trained Nurse in America receives from twenty-five to thirty-five dollars per week (five to seven pounds), and, as she is able to save a large sum when in constant work, she has a very strong distaste to anything which savours of charity and patronage, and the very strong flavour of both ingredients which compose the British Pension Fund is, therefore, very unpopular here. In fact, from an international point of view, the Nursing Congress has been a complete '*fiasco*,' as we Britishers anticipated, when it became known in Chicago that Dr. BILLINGS had attempted to organize it through an unprofessional paper in England."

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I HAVE heard with great pleasure that it is proposed to hold an International Nursing Congress in London in the summer of next year, and that it is hoped that a Nursing Exhibition will be organised at the same time, as the same ladies who have carried through the Nursing Exhibit in Chicago so successfully are interesting themselves in the scheme. It will, doubtless, be carried out in the same liberal spirit, all the important Hospitals having been invited to help on the last occasion. It is to be hoped, for their own reputation, that some of these institutions will respond in a more energetic manner than heretofore, as it has been proved that their apathy cannot prevent success or arrest progress.

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I HEAR that at a recent meeting of the St. Mary Abbots', Kensington, Board of Guardians, ten Probationer-Nurses, who had completed their three years' term of training, received the certificate from the Chairman of the Board. The Examiner, Mr. WALTER TYRRELL, reported that all the Probationers had passed a very satisfactory examination, and in the course of his remarks said "the Kensington Infirmary must take a high place among the Training Schools for Nurses, the knowledge of the pupils being above the average, and great pains must have been taken to render them so efficient." The lecturers were the Medical Superintendent, the Matron, and Assistant Medical Officer. The names of the Nurses receiving certificates were:—Francis A. Albutt, Martha Hill, Agnes Carson, Maude Weddall, Kate Jung, Alice Kenyon, Elizabeth Dixon, Florence Perkins, Fanny McMahan, Mary Brentnall.

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I AM told that Mrs. CARROLL has entered upon her duties as Lady Superintendent of the Worcester City and County Nursing Institution. She has had considerable experience in nursing, and also in the management of Hospitals and Nursing Institutions, having been trained in the Nightingale School, St. Thomas's Hospital, and subsequently acted as Superintendent of one of the branches of the Metropolitan and National Nursing Associations. After that she held the post of Matron of the County Hospital, Lincoln, and then that of Lady Superintendent of the St. Helena Home for Trained Nurses.

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THE following letter to the *Lancet* has been sent to me by a kind correspondent with the remark "This doctor seems surprised to discover one of the scandals which discredit Nurses, and for which

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