

8. The Executive Committee shall meet once in each month, or as often as may be necessary, at such times and places as may be decided upon, to elect Members and Associates, and do such other business as may be necessary.

9. No new bye-law may be made, nor may any standing bye-law be amended or rescinded, except at a General Meeting of Members, nor unless full notice of such proposed alteration, addition or omission, shall have been given to every Member upon the notice convening the said Meeting.

AMERICAN MATRONS.

We cull the following from the *Trained Nurse* :—

"Judging from articles which from month to month appear in the *Trained Nurse*, it would seem that the existence of the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools is by many Nurses still unknown. The need of such a society has long been felt, and little more than one year ago several of the most earnest and progressive superintendents, feeling that the time for action had arrived, formed themselves into a committee, framed the constitution, planned and brought about the organisation of the association. The first meeting was held in New York on the 9th and 10th of January last. Some forty or more superintendents of training schools presented themselves and were enrolled as members. The constitution was adopted, and much other important work was accomplished. Too much must not be expected of a society not yet one year old. But that it has a grand future, and that every school will be benefited by it, there is no reason for doubt. The next regular meeting will be held in Boston some time in February, 1896. It is to be hoped that at this meeting the membership will be greatly increased. Surely every superintendent of a training school of any considerable size should become a member of this society, one of the objects of which is 'to further the best interests of the Nursing profession.' How can this better be accomplished than by the meeting together of superintendents of training schools for counsel and exchange of ideas? Each person in charge of a training school should feel that she has a responsibility in the matter. The training schools of to-day are advancing. Let each one help on the good work. Let each school have its alumni, and let accurate reports of work done be kept, and reports sent to the meeting of the society. The association should be in touch with each school. How can this be done if schools are not represented at its meetings? All letters of inquiry concerning admission of members to the society will be welcome and promptly answered by the president, Miss Linda Richards, superintendent of Training School, Brooklyn Homœopathic Hospital, Cumberland Street."

We thoroughly sympathise with the sentiments of the writer; but to develop into a really useful and vigorous body, our American colleagues must meet more often than once in two years. They must remember that "ill weeds grow apace," and already the evils which have struck such deep roots in our midst—nursing quackery and sweating—are beginning to make themselves felt and resented in the States, as any attentive reader of current American Nursing Journals must acknowledge. Prompt action on the part of the Society of Superintendents of Training Schools would do much to nip these evils in the bud.

Medical Matters.

NOTHING NEW.



A remarkable illustration of the adage that there is nothing new under the sun appears in a foreign medical contemporary, which has published a lengthy article on the treatment of diphtheria. For many years a treatment much in favour with experienced practitioners was the administration of full doses of a solution of perchloride of iron in combination with chlorate of potash; it being recognised that under this medication the virulence of the attack was quickly subdued, and the great majority of the cases recovered well. Now the pendulum has swung rather towards the new treatment of diphtheria by injections of its antitoxin, which has been found to possess very good results, even in the most severe and apparently almost hopeless cases. But our foreign contemporary advocates the use of the perchloride of iron because the author of the paper in question, after trying various remedies in twenty-one cases, of whom eleven died, employed the ferric salt as an application to the tonsils, and of the thirty-seven cases so treated only one was fatal. We are quite at one in the opinion expressed by the author as to the value of this system of treatment in these cases, and only surprised that it should be regarded as at all novel. Perhaps some ten years hence antitoxin may be tried in the country in question with results equally good, and, perhaps, equally surprising, to the practitioner.

THE HEART IN UTERINE DISEASE.

Various observers have, at different times, called attention to the frequency with which some form of heart disease accompanies various affections to which the uterus is liable, and all these cases are usually explicable upon simple mechanical grounds of interference with, or of pressure upon, the heart walls. A recent number of a German contemporary contains an interesting article upon the history of four patients suffering from fibroids of the uterus, who were troubled with various signs of heart mischief, such as palpitations, shortness of breath, and pains in the chest. In two of these cases the uterine tumour was removed, and the heart symptoms disappeared. In the other two cases the fibroids ceased to grow, and the symptoms referable to the heart also ceased. In one case the heart was hypertrophied, in the other three it is stated that there was no evidence of organic cardiac disease. Like many other clinical contributions which appear in German medical papers, this narration of facts would lead one to suppose that the narrator had not enjoyed a very extensive

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