

that therefore they are often compelled to have Nurses in attendance upon them. The better class hotels are aware that there is no possibility at present of infectious diseases being treated in such establishments. The Notification of Diseases Act makes it obligatory upon medical men to report all such cases to the Local Authority, and then means are immediately taken to isolate such patients, and thus prevent the spread of infection. Consequently, the attendance of a Nurse on a visitor in an hotel may nowadays be regarded as proof positive that the patient is suffering from anything rather than an infectious disease. It is, therefore, impossible to pretend that her presence implies the danger of the conveyance of infection to any of the other visitors; and no other reason except the contention that Nurses are persons who detract by their appearances from the respectability of an establishment, could possibly be urged in support of their exclusion from the public rooms of an hotel.

It is therefore a direct insult to all members of the Nursing profession that any hotel manager should refuse to permit a Nurse in uniform to enter any public room of his establishment. It will be remembered that great indignation was caused some time ago by the refusal on the part of certain similar establishments to supply refreshments to soldiers in uniform. The matter was warmly taken up by their officers and by their professional journals, with the result that an unmistakable expression of opinion was elicited on the matter, both in the press and in Parliament. We would advise any of our readers who have been subjected to any similar indignity to that described by our correspondent, to communicate with us and to furnish us with the names of the hotels in question, and full particulars concerning the treatment which they received, and we will take measures to call the attention of the public to the matter. The insult was bad enough in the case of those who wore Her Majesty's uniform, and who were prepared when the necessity arose to lay down their lives for their country. The insult appears to us to be even worse when it is exhibited towards those who wear the uniform of a Nurse, who are in fact serving in the great army which is contesting daily with disease and death; who are women whose lives are consecrated to the service of humanity, and who often face dangers in that contest which are strictly comparable to those to which the soldier is exposed in time of war. We feel confident that the public will strongly disapprove of the conduct of those hotel managers who adopt the course upon which we have been compelled to comment; and, at any rate, we are sure that these will find it materially detrimental to their own interests thus to insult

and annoy a class of workers whose influence with the public is by no means inconsiderable. On behalf of the Nursing profession of this country we enter our strongest protest against the arbitrary conduct of those who thus attempt to class Nurses amongst those whom, from lack of character or of other qualifications, it is necessary to exclude from the public rooms of an hotel.

#### MEN'S STAYS.

WHEN the modern satirist can find time to spare from his present occupation—the detailed criticism of the New Woman—it is to be hoped that he will devote some attention to the peculiarities of the New Man. It seems to be an extraordinary consequence of some, natural law, that together with the more masculine habits adopted by some women, there should be found a corresponding number of men who are distinctly retrograding into effeminacy. While women are taking every day a more active part in the world of letters, of art, and even of science, and while the strange physical impulses of this generation are showing themselves in the appearance of the lady bicyclist and of the lady football player, it is noticeable that there are a considerable number of men who have adopted habits which were formerly considered to be almost exclusively feminine. The latest instance of this change is to be found in the increasing demand which we are informed is now made for corsets for men. It would almost seem as though Nature, while giving to the girls of this generation greater mental activity, a higher stature, and greater physical force than their grandmothers possessed, had been compelled to balance matters and to maintain the great law of averages by diminishing those gifts to the boys; thus causing some men of the present day to suffer from that vertebral weakness which originally led women to adopt corsets as a means of spinal support. It is impossible to walk down Bond Street at present, or to move in society without being struck by the unnatural figures presented by many men; and while lawn tennis, and other outdoor exercises have distinctly widened the ordinary female waist, the tapering proportions which were formerly considered the acme of feminine beauty have now almost been attained by certain well-known masculine figures.

#### NURSING APPOINTMENTS.

WE are glad to hear Miss Gertrude Vacher, the Matron of the Hospital for Accidents at Poplar, has been unanimously elected Matron of the Kimberley Hospital, South Africa, out of fifty-nine candidates. Miss Vacher was trained at the London Hospital and has had a varied experience of Nursing. We are glad to observe that so many British Nurses applied for the post, in consequence of the advertisement of the vacancy in our columns. It will be remembered that the *Hospital* advised Nurses not to apply for the vacant post, and that the Medical Staff and Committee of the Kimberley Hospital recently published in our columns their dignified protest against this strange proceeding of our contemporary.

To fill the vacancy created by Miss Vacher's resignation, Miss Selina Bland has been appointed Matron of the Poplar Hospital. She was trained at the London Hospital, where she has lately held the position of Sister of the Gloucester Wards.

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