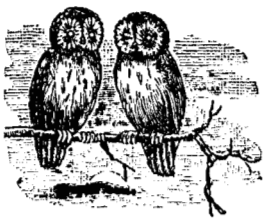


which I think many Nurses are not sufficiently particular; for instance, the care of their hands and teeth. It seems a small thing, but it makes a great difference to a sick person who cannot escape from the hands of his Nurse, if these hands are clean and well kept, dry and cool. Nothing is more trying to many people than to be touched by a clammy damp hand, and though moist or dry fingers are, to some extent, dependent on the state of health, much can be done to remedy the unpleasantness. There is, however, no excuse for unkempt nails, or black fingers. If the Nurse has to keep the fireplace and put on coal, it is easy to keep a housemaid's glove to slip on.

Some Nurses use scents, which is very objectionable, even a highly scented soap is not nice. The Nurse should represent in the sick-room all that is fresh and wholesome and natural, but to be perfumed with heavy scent is not to carry freshness. Even the excuse that there are bad smells to counteract, cannot be received. Get rid of the bad smell certainly, but not by drowning it in a smell of another kind. Be very particular about your own personal cleanliness. This is a piece of advice likely to offend some late correspondents of the NURSING RECORD, I fear, but I can assure them that I advise from knowledge, for these "hints" are founded on notes I have made during the last five years on *individuals*—Trained Nurses.

Matrons in Council.



A MEETING of the Matrons' Council was held on Thursday, April 18th, at three o'clock, at the Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, at which a good number of members were present. After the ordinary business of the day, the Council very carefully considered the Draft Regulations for conduct of business at its meetings, which the executive committee had prepared. A copy of them will be sent to each member when printed.

In discussing arrangements for the Conferences of next session, the Council was of opinion that "A Uniform Curriculum for Nurses" would be a most interesting and useful subject for one. It was therefore decided that an endeavour should be made during the summer to elicit the opinions of all Matrons on this matter, and that statistics gathered from these various opinions should form the basis of an address, to be delivered by Miss Isla Stewart, the President, at the first Conference in October. It was thought advisable to leave the arrangements for the other Conferences until later in the year, in case any subject of special interest should arise.

The following ladies have consented to accept the nomination of the Matrons' Council to become honorary members:—Mrs. Dacre Craven, Mde. Reijnvaan, Lady Superintendent of the Amsterdam Hospital, one of the organisers of the Dutch Nursing Association; Miss Mary A. Snively, Lady Superintendent of the General Hospital, Toronto, as a Canadian representative, and Miss Farquharson, Lady Superintendent of the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, and Local Secretary of the Royal British Nurses' Association.

The first School of Method will be held on Monday, April 29th, at four o'clock, at the Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The subjects to be considered are chiefly in connection with Committee Meetings, drawing up reports, and the duties of various officers. Members wishing to be present should send their names to the Hon. Secretary, 22, Cheyne Gardens, Chelsea, S.W.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday, July 4th, at 3 p.m., at the Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

M. ANDREWS, Hon. Sec.

THE THIRD CONFERENCE.

A LARGE, interested, and very representative gathering of the Nursing world, met together at the Medical Society's Rooms in Chandos Street, on Thursday, April 18th, to hear a paper by Lieut-Col. Evatt, on "The Organisation and Working of Medical Aid to the Wounded in Modern War."

Col. Evatt showed his appreciation of the Matrons' Council and the work it is accomplishing, by coming up specially from Netley to deliver his lecture on this most important and interesting subject.

Miss Stewart took the chair, and was supported on either side by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Hughes, Miss Sidney Browne, Supt. Sister of Woolwich, Mrs. Bouchier, late Army Nursing Sister, and the Hon. Sec. In a few graceful words she introduced the lecturer to the audience, who showed their welcome of the gallant Colonel by a round of applause.

He opened his address by saying that his lecture was given with the view of explaining how the wounded were cared for in modern war—a subject which was little understood even by military men, and to the public was almost like a sealed book. His mission was to bring before his audience the system of the Red Cross Societies, to call attention to the terrible sufferings of the wounded, the efforts to relieve these sufferings, and the difficulties which had to be met and overcome. To make the matter more simple he would have to go back to the year 1854, and to compare the old and the new systems. The Battle of Waterloo was fought in 1814, after which peace prevailed till 1854. When we went into action in the Crimea we did so with a very inefficient Medical Service, and at Alma the arrangements for the relief of our wounded soldiers were of the most primitive and insufficient kind. He might almost say that the hospital at Scutari was made sublime through suffering. Out of these sufferings a woman's name shone out with noble clearness—the name of Florence Nightingale.

Since the days of the Crimea much organisation had taken place, and great improvements made in every branch of the medical service. To make the modern

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)