

seven years ago, and have kept them ever since, as representatives, for example, of the Nurse Training Schools of St. Bartholomew's and the Middlesex; and of the Royal Naval Nursing Service, have been removed from the list.

We have contented ourselves with a mere explanation of facts. The members will doubtless, at the forthcoming Annual Meeting, express their opinions upon the manner in which it is proposed to break the old-standing agreement with the Nurse Training Schools, and to force off, by a mere verbal ambiguity and legal quibble, from the governing body of the Royal British Nurses' Association, those leaders of the Nursing profession who practically founded it, and by whose strenuous efforts and work during the last seven years that body has been built up into its present condition of success and prosperity.

Appointments.

MISS FITZPATRICK, Lady Superintendent of the Royal Isle of Wight Infirmary, Ryde, has been appointed Matron of the Adelaide Hospital, Dublin. Miss Fitzpatrick's seven years' work at Ryde has been characterised by much progress, and in that short space of time she has quite revolutionised the Nursing methods of the Hospital. Miss Fitzpatrick's loss will be much regretted by the medical staff, by a host of personal friends in Ryde, and by each and all of her Nurses.

Miss Vacher sails for South Africa on the 8th inst. to take up her new appointment as Matron of the Kimberley Hospital.

Miss Isabella Gordon and Miss Christina Couch, Staff Nurses at Gordon House Home Hospital, have been selected by Miss Vacher to fill the position of Sisters at Kimberley, and will sail at an early date. The former lady, who is a Registered Nurse, was trained and certificated at the London Hospital from 1886 to 1892, and was then appointed Staff Nurse at Gordon House Home Hospital.

Miss Couch was trained and certificated at King's College Hospital from 1889 to 1893, and has since held her present position at Gordon House. Both ladies will be sincerely regretted by their colleagues and by the distinguished surgeons for whom they have worked with much success.

BRITISH HOSPITAL, MONTEVIDEO, SOUTH AMERICA.—The Matronship of this Hospital has been given to a lady who has had considerable experience in Colonial Hospitals—Miss Charlotte Bright being chosen for the post. Miss Bright was trained at the General Hospital, Wolverhampton, and after holding her post of Ward Sister at Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, she became Superintendent of the Children's Hospital at Brisbane, and later, Matron of the Croydon District Hospital, South Queensland. Her next experience was in Rio de Janeiro, where she was Ward Sister at The Stranger's Hospital, whence she goes to the more important post to which she has just been appointed.

The Three Years' Course of Training in connection with the Eight Hour System.*

By MRS. HUNTER ROBB (*née* ISABEL HAMPTON).

SOMETIME over a year ago, it was my privilege to prepare for the International Congress of Charity and Correction a paper dealing with the standards of education to be demanded of Nurses, both before and after their entrance into a training school. It may be remembered by some of you who are now present that I spoke at some length of the necessity of a careful elimination of the undesirable candidates who present themselves. I insisted that not every woman who desires to take up the profession of a trained Nurse has the natural capabilities or has had the educational advantages which are necessary to such a career. But I pointed out that, after obtaining suitable material, it is necessary to make the best possible use of it, and that here the second part of our duty begins.

Among other changes advocated in the paper just referred to, was the extension of the course over a period of three years, with a day of practical work consisting of eight hours. At that time the reasons for these changes, and suggestions as to the manner in which they could be carried out, could be only broadly outlined. The object of the present paper is to consider these reasons in detail and try to arrive at some practical conclusion which will facilitate the establishment of such a course in the various training schools.

The subject should be dealt with without bias for any school in particular, but with a view to the best interests of all training schools which are able to undertake satisfactorily the important duty of training Nurses. Between these schools there should exist a spirit of unity, and it should be our earnest desire to establish a standard of education that will be common to all. To bring about this should be, and I believe is, one of the chief aims of our association. And it seems to me that, just at present, no better opportunity could be afforded to us to accomplish our end than in uniting in developing the three years' course of instruction, and agreeing, after due discussion, upon the adoption of some scheme which should also include (1) specifications of the necessary qualifications of applicants; (2) a curriculum for teaching and study; and (3) a proper grading in tests and in final examinations for certificates.

* Paper read at the second Annual Meeting of the American Society of Training School Superintendents held in Boston, Mass., February 13th and 14th, 1895, by Mrs. Hunter Robb, late Superintendent of Nurses, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, U.S.A.

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