

a trained nurse, working in unison with the medical department of the army, having efficient assistants, and under such regulated arrangements that without delay a sufficient force of trained nurses could be sent at any moment to any point where their services might be required.

It is believed that if this bill is passed, and this system established, the difficulties that exist under present conditions will be removed, and nursing become a recognized part of the army and navy services. In connection with the discussion of the Army Nursing Bill, very interesting reports were read and accounts given by nurses who had been engaged in camp hospitals or on board hospital ships during the Spanish-American war. All these reports agreed in showing the imperative need of entire alteration of the present system. Recognizing, therefore, the importance of this measure, it is urged upon all members to endeavour to obtain the interest of Representatives from their districts, Senators from their States, or any influential friends, in order to secure the passage of the bill during the ensuing year.

#### TEACHERS' COLLEGE.

One of the most interesting of all the subjects brought up at the meeting was the proposed course for graduate nurses at the Teachers' College in New York. It is of such general interest that we are glad to be able to publish an account of its possibilities and aims.

#### DELEGATES REPORT OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

In listening to the report of the Delegates to the Convention of the Alumnae Association, the members present were much impressed with a sense of the growing necessity for co-operation and organization among nurses. This impression was created mainly from accounts read before the National Association of the flooding of some cities with semi-trained women from special hospitals whose limited training and inferior opportunities bring discredit in many instances on the profession at large; also from the short-sighted policy adopted by some schools in endeavouring to nurse people of moderate means by giving so-called caretakers a smattering of instruction. As a result, the public being unable to recognize the difference, employs these women in the capacity of trained nurses at lower rates, much to the detriment of those who have given years to fit themselves for the conscientious exercise of their profession.

To remedy the first of these difficulties, the Associated Alumnae is endeavouring by all means in its power to prevent the establishment of training schools in hospitals for the treat-

ment of special diseases. It realizes that special hospitals and very small hospitals must exist, and that every effort should be made to provide them with proper nursing, but that this should be accomplished in some other way than through the establishment of Training Schools.

#### OPEN REGISTRY.

In the report issued last year, the question of an open Registry was considered. Later in the year it was decided that nurses in good standing in their own Association should be allowed to place their names upon our Registry.

This is by no means a new departure. The tendency in all larger cities is towards broader professional fellowship, and as a practical outcome, the establishment of a Central Registry wherever possible, which shall provide for all members in good standing.

It is a matter of deep regret that during the past year the first break in our ranks has occurred. We refer to the death of Miss Dora Hamilton, of the Class of '93. It was decided that a resolution of regret be sent to her family.

A question of interest and importance arose during the meeting, and the result of the discussion met with general satisfaction.

It was recognized that as our own Association grows, and the work of the National Association increases in scope, and questions are likely continually to arise connected with the progress of the profession, that our one annual meeting is no longer sufficient to enable us to keep up with all these questions. It was decided, therefore, that business meetings should be called more frequently—at least four times a year.

This involves a slight alteration of the Constitution, and a committee has been appointed to make the necessary change.

The report of the House Committee is published in full.

In connection with this report we may note that the Advisory Board appointed in 1895 no longer exists. The fund for the management of which it was appointed has been expended in the building of the annex to the club-house.

The luncheon which was suggested last year, in place of the annual dinner, proved such a success that it was unanimously decided it should be given in future.

(To be continued.)

THE plague is becoming very serious in the Mauritius. For the week ending October 5th, 98 fresh cases occurred, 58 of which were fatal. Total deaths from plague, 69. Yellow fever is still epidemic at Key West, U.S.A.

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