

result of generous *esprit de corps*, with the sadly chaotic condition of affairs in England, where very few nurses were yet alive to the advantages of professional combination.

Speaking on Army Nursing Mrs. Fenwick reported the action taken in the States in relation to organising an efficient service by American women, and the announcement that Congress had given its assent to a Bill providing for a Nursing Department at the War Office in Washington, and accepting the principle of professional control for Army nurses by placing a trained nurse at its head, was received with applause. The information that British Matrons also were earnestly engaged in representing to the Government the necessity for such a reform at home, and that the Secretary of State for War had consented to receive a deputation of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland on the morrow at the War Office, was heartily approved.

Delightful music added greatly to the brightness of this gathering; typically representative of a generous high spirited people, who have never yet parted with their idealism, and among whom the traditions of courtesy and hospitality are still sacred.

We hear that the "Army and Navy grandees have declined with thanks" to send a Nursing Delegate to Buffalo, although Nursing in Naval and Military Hospitals, and Red Cross work, takes a prominent place in the Congress program. What a pity this repressive attitude is—upon the part of Government Departments in relation to woman's work—to the nation at large, but, of course, an unfranchised class does not count. How immensely valuable a report on Nursing on Active Service would be from a woman with the practical experience of Sister Sidney Browne, who in the last eighteen years has run the whole gamut of Army nursing at home and abroad. But we all know that this devoted Sister will be one of the last to leave South Africa, and we cannot hope to meet her again until this lingering war is at an end.

It has been suggested that an effort should be made to try and raise funds to send a civil Sister to Buffalo who has worked in the South African war, so that the result of her experience and suggestions may be placed on record in the transactions of this great Congress. But where is the cash to come from? How this question of money cripples every effort to further the valuable work of women for the benefit of the State. One wonders why women ever give or leave a penny for any other purpose than for furthering the education

and emancipation of their sex! They might be quite sure that such knowledge and liberty would more greatly benefit the world than vicarious charity.

The nurses at the Chelsea Infirmary spent a very enjoyable evening on Thursday, March 28th, when Mrs. Hayward, better known in the nursing world as Miss Rolleston (Sister Elizabeth, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital), gave a most interesting lecture on her recent experiences while on the nursing staff of the Imperial Yeomanry Hospital, at Dielfontein, in South Africa. Mrs. Hayward wore her army nursing uniform.

We learn from Miss Ella Pycroft, Organiser of the Domestic Economy Department, in connection with the Technical Education Board of the London County Council, that teaching in sick cookery is now organised by the Board, and that lessons are given at several infirmaries in London on payment to the Board of the ordinary fee for a cookery teacher—namely, 5s. a lesson, and railway and omnibus fares. Examinations are held if desired at the end of the courses, but certificates are not given by the Board, though the authorities of the various infirmaries can, of course, award certificates themselves if they see fit, and can quote the number of marks gained in the examinations. The address of the Technical Education Board is 116, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.

We are informed that a scheme is under consideration for providing the children in the National Orthopædic Hospital, Great Portland Street, with kindergarten instruction for some hours in the morning, several times a week. As patients suffering from diseases of this nature are not, as a rule, bodily ill, and frequently have to stay in hospital for months in order that the treatment they receive may be effective, the plan is an excellent one, and we hope it may be carried out.

Dr. L. G. Hill last week delivered an interesting lecture on "Medical Missions in China," and especially described the hospital with which he is connected at Pak-hoi, which contains 200 beds. Pak-hoi is nearly 2,000 miles from Peking, and the dispensary work which was opened there fourteen years ago under the auspices of the Church Missionary Society has been so successful that the present large hospital is the result. The staff consists of only two doctors, and two trained nurses, so that additional help is much needed. He considered that the best way to open up China was to send out more medical missionaries. Nurses were very much needed not only for nursing work, but also to train native women.

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