

they differ; (b) Lay and medical control of Hospitals; (c) Male and Female Superintendents; (d) The relation of the Nurses' Training School to the hospital; (e) Where we women come in.

"The Nurses' Educational Curriculum" includes (a) The Preparation of the Pupil, Preliminary Course; (b) How to utilise clinical instruction; (c) A minimum qualification and examination; (d) Honours; (e) Legal status; (f) Post-graduate work; (g) Matron, Superintendent of Nurses, and Principal, training and duties.

"Nursing Practice for Graduate Nurses" includes their work (a) in Government Departments; (b) In Institutions; (c) In Private Houses; (d) As employées of charitable bodies.

Under "Organization and Legislation" (a) As it is and (b) as it should be.

All these important matters were brought before the International Congress in thoughtful papers prepared by experts, but these papers were far too numerous, and the time far too limited for the majority to receive full justice in the discussions which followed. I therefore "button-holed," as far as opportunity permitted, the leaders of nursing thought gathered together at Buffalo, and by informal chats and consultations on all these points, extracted most valuable expressions of opinion. Moreover, I subsequently visited Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boston, and New York, Eastern cities where hospital management has reached a very high standard of scientific excellence, and consulted the Superintendents of Nurses in the chief training schools in these cities on many debateable points. I found this method of obtaining knowledge reliable and satisfactory, as one got at the root of things, and was also able, by comparing the various opinions expressed, to arrive at a fair conclusion concerning questions which are interesting Matrons and nurses in every country where nursing has become a skilled profession.

The one thing upon which the American nursing world seem absolutely unanimous, is the necessity for State Registration. They believe, as many of us believe here, that such registration will be the *lever* by which the organization of Nurses and Nursing can be best effected. This is good. Apart from this fundamental principle, the question of the greatest interest to those privileged to be present at the Congress, was undoubtedly that of Preliminary Education, and in this connection I spent a most instructive time with Miss Nutting, Superintendent of Nurses at Johns Hopkins Hospital, whose "experiment" just started in this great training school, of a six months' course of such instruction before the pupil nurse is drafted into the hospital wards for clinical teaching and practical work, is almost

identical with the curriculum suggested in my paper, read by request before the National Union of Women Workers at Croydon in 1897, and published in this journal on November 6th of that year. I also had the pleasure of visiting and inspecting the Waltham Training School, near Boston, by the invitation of its initiator and President, Dr. A. Worcester, a man of much original thought, and was immensely impressed with the work of the institution as a preliminary training school for nurses as apart from private practice.

The position and duties of the American Superintendent of Nurses as compared to the British Hospital Matron, was another question of interest and importance, which provoked comparisons in my informal search after knowledge; also the future of Private Nursing, from a financial standpoint.

The Nursing of Sick Soldiers stirred the patriotic souls of American and British alike, and a visit to the War Office at Washington, where I was most courteously received by Mrs. Dita H. Kinney, the Superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps, was enlightening to an immense degree.

I so thoroughly enjoyed these personal interviews, and find my knowledge on all the points alluded to so crystalized that I shall try to give out something of what I have learned for the consideration of others, and shall, as it were, sum up each session of the Congress, at the conclusion of each section as reported in this journal, with a few remarks founded on the result of personal investigation.

Next week will appear Mrs. Robb's able Paper on "Women on Hospital Boards," and the Discussion which followed, which concluded the first session of the Congress on Hospital Administration, so that in this connection I shall have a word to say on (a) The English and American Systems, where they differ; (b) Lay and medical control of Hospitals; (c) Male and Female Superintendents; (d) The relation of the Nurse Training School to the Hospital; (e) Where we women come in.

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### Foreign Delegates and Officers.

The happy idea of commemorating the Nurses' Congress by photographs was popular at Buffalo. Three groups were taken of the Hon. Officers and Foreign Delegates, the American Delegates, and the Spanish-American War Nurses. The first group which appears on the previous page, is unfortunately incomplete, dear little Miss Dock will *not* be photographed, and Mrs. Robb and Miss Louisa Stevenson were unavoidably absent. It is a pity that photography in colours is yet an unperfected art, as the group, as it appeared before the camera, was very bright and gay.

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