

still contesting this indisputable teaching, and attempting to act as Matrons as well as medical officers in public institutions. It is high time they realised the futility of the attempt. Their failure has been sufficiently demonstrated in the chaotic domestic condition of institutions run on these lines.

We understand that the formation of an Insurance Union for Midwives is receiving the consideration of the members of the Midwives' Institute, and that a sub-committee appointed for the purpose has furnished a report as to the lines upon which it is expedient to form such a Union. It suggests that the Council of the Midwives' Institute be asked to undertake the organization of an Insurance Union for a year, to be considered experimental and probationary. The matter will be placed before the Council of the Institute as soon as thirty subscriptions of half-a-guinea to an Insurance Union have been received. It is significant that midwives as well as trained nurses are feeling the need of a society of this nature. It is proposed that the Society shall provide for three distinct forms of insurance, namely, Quarantine Insurance, in the event of a period of quarantine being imposed by a Medical Officer of Health, Defence Insurance, to provide legal assistance to members if required, Insurance to pay the doctor's fees in cases where a medical man is called in by the midwife, and the patients cannot or will not pay.

A movement which was set on foot in Lochee—the district of Dundee, in which Miss Jessie R. Mitchell, who has recently been appointed Matron of one of the Concentration Camps in South Africa, worked for ten years—to subscribe for a suitable testimonial to her, has resulted in the realisation of between £30 and £40, a large portion of the sum subscribed having been given by Miss Mitchell's former patients among the working classes. A handsome gold watch has been purchased with part of the money, and the balance, fully £20, has been placed in Miss Mitchell's name, on deposit account in one of the local banks.

We note with interest that a new Maternity Hospital is to be erected in Montreal which will not only be a training school for the students of McGill University, but will also afford obstetrical training for nurses. Fifty-six years ago the hospital was started under the auspices of McGill, and was known as the University Hospital, and since then the work has grown enormously, and the realisation of the need of a suitable hospital in Montreal led Sir William Macdonald to supplement his original gift to the building fund by

15,000 dollars, in order that a better site might be secured.

The Board of the new Montreal Maternity Hospital will comprise representatives from the Board of McGill University, and of the Royal Victoria and General Hospitals, and the wards will be used as training ground for the nurses of the latter institutions. At present this Maternity Hospital is the only one in Canada—if we except the special department at the Toronto General Hospital—where nurses can obtain their obstetrical training. In the past the accommodation has been so limited that many Canadian nurses have gone to the States for this training, but in the new building there will be room for a much larger number of nurses.

A new organization of nurses, termed the Philadelphia County Nurses' Association, has been formed in Philadelphia. English nurses may not know that the States in America are subdivided into counties, and our American colleagues are wisely following these lines in marshalling their forces for organization purposes.

Membership of the new association is open to graduates of training schools for nurses connected with general hospitals in the County of Philadelphia, containing not less than fifty beds, and women who have graduated from other recognised training schools who have been resident in the county of Philadelphia for at least a year.

The President is Miss Lucy Walker, Superintendent of the Pennsylvania Hospital, the Vice-President Miss Marion E. Smith, Superintendent of the Philadelphia Hospital, and one of the Councillors is Miss Milne, Superintendent of the Presbyterian Hospital. All these names are very familiar to English nurses.

Thus our American colleagues are organizing so that when concerted action is desirable, concerning State Registration, or any other matter which affects the nursing profession as a whole, they will be able to voice their opinions. Opinion is divided as to whether in forming State Associations it is desirable that organization should be undertaken on local lines or on the individual basis, that is to say, whether graduates should enter the State Association in their individual capacity or through local Associations. Miss Dock, speaking recently at New Jersey to a large meeting of nurses, on the need for State Registration, thought it well that all States should not form alike, but that both plans should be tried, so that both the individual and local basis might be tested by experience. This is the liberal spirit in which organization work should be approached.

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