

imminent danger. She went instead into the bedroom of one of the nurses, and, with the nurse, tried to hold the door against the lunatic; but he forced the door open and again attacked Miss Lewis, when the nurse ran down to the door of the hospital to seek the assistance of the police. Two working-men, Messrs. Cockerill and Thompson, who were passing by, then entered the hospital and rescued the Matron from extreme peril. The patient was eventually removed to the Asylum at Beverley. Miss Lewis, in thanking the Committee of the Lloyd Hospital for the vote of thanks accorded to her, modestly said that all she had done was to try to do her duty. That is no doubt the case, but to have a clear insight into one's duty in critical and alarming situations one must form the habit of devotion to it in the commonplace events of daily life, so that the call may ring out clear and true in moments of peril, and receive an instinctive—almost an automatic—response. Therefore the Committee of the Lloyd Hospital did well to thank Miss Lewis for her courageous conduct; and, in the name of the nursing profession, the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING also offers her its thanks for the manner in which she has upheld the best traditions of her profession. She was trained at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, where she afterwards held the position of Sister. She also held a similar position at the Southport Infirmary.

### Futile Certificates.

We are glad to observe that the Probationary Nurses at the Croydon Infirmary are alive to the injury done them by having certificates of training awarded to them without the signature of the Matron.

The infirmary report, presented to the Croydon Guardians at a recent meeting, contained this paragraph:—

"We have interviewed seventeen of the nurses, whose signatures are appended to the complaint referred to us by the Visiting Committee as to the training of nurses at the infirmary. No specific charges of deficient or inefficient training were made, but only general charges not amounting to deficiency or inefficiency in training. Exception was taken to the form of certificate, but no instance of hardship or inconvenience was brought forward. We explained the reason of the present form of certificate, and expressed an opinion that the apprehensions are not based upon facts, and are groundless."

No explanation upon the part of the Infirmary Committee can explain away the breach of good faith with women who enter their school. A certificate of nursing unsigned by the head of the Nursing Department is just so much waste paper, and we advise the nurses thus bamboozled to make their grievance public.

### Professional Progress in Australia.

The Register and Report of the Victorian Trained Nurses' Association for the last year is a most inspiring publication, proving that in this Colony the organisation of nursing and nurses is rapidly progressing on a sound basis.

We have previously published in detail the objects and rules of this Association, of which the inaugural meeting was held in April of last year, as well as the schedule of study prescribed.

#### THE WORK OF THE YEAR.

The record of the last year shows:—

1. The Articles of Association agreed upon, and the first Council elected June 12th, 1901.
2. A Reciprocal Agreement signed with the Australasian Association.
3. The Registration of 623 nurses.
4. The Registration of thirty-six General Hospitals as Training Schools under regulations approved by the Board.
5. A uniform system of training and examination for registered nurses approved and circulated.
6. Rules for the registration of special hospitals as training-schools in special branches approved and circulated.
7. Rules for the registration of nursing homes approved and registration proceeded with.
8. The organisation of a winter course of lectures.
9. Preliminary measures taken for the preparation of Text-Books in General and Special Nursing, and for the establishment of Pension, Accident, and Sick Funds.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION.

The form which nurses who desire their names to appear on the Register are requested to fill up annually provides for the notification in detail of the applicant's professional career, the certificate of general training held, also whether the applicant holds (1) a Midwifery Certificate, (2) a Gynaecological Certificate, (3) a Medico-psychological Certificate, or (4) any other qualifications or experience.

#### REGISTRATION OF TRAINING-SCHOOLS.

It will be remembered that applicants for registration by the Victorian Trained Nurses' Association must, before being entered on the General Register, give proof of not less than three years' training in a hospital recognised by the Council. The framing of regulations under which hospitals are recognised is therefore a necessary duty.

Any General Hospital in Victoria is eligible for recognition and registration as a training-school for Nurses under the Victorian Trained Nurses' Association, provided it fulfils the following requirements to the satisfaction of the Council of the Association:—

1. The Matron of the General Hospital shall be upon the General Register of the Association.

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