

responsive, even when to them the idea was an entirely novel one; and in the concerted carrying out of this idea I have found the possibility of friction diminished, as well as the danger of time dragging heavily by, for all concerned. Some may argue that it is unnecessary for a nurse to voluntarily increase her labours, but, judged by results, it is work and thought well invested, which makes for general happiness in a house, and goes far to lighten the tedium for the nurse inseparable from many cases.

The point to be remembered in supplying colour to a sick-room is that its chief value lies in its suggestiveness. Do not overcrowd and weary the eye. The aim should be to stimulate the imagination. A stagnant imagination, which is too often the fate of the sick, inevitably acts injuriously on the human mind and frame. Emerson wrote: "There is a joy in perceiving the representative or symbolical character of a fact, which no bare fact or event can ever give. There are no days in life so memorable as those which vibrated to some stroke of the imagination."

Mr. Menpes urges the use of more colour for the world in general, and assures us that it is Nature's panacea. I am at one with him, but would go further and claim that, for sick-rooms in particular, the judicious use of colour—mental, moral, and physical—has incalculable power for healing. The need of it is often urgently felt, though seldom expressed except by general depression. It is part of the art of nursing to supply this need.

M. M. G. B.

### Royal South Hants League of Nurses.

A meeting of the General Council of the above League was held at the hospital on Saturday, July 4th, at 4.30 p.m.

After the minutes, reports, and balance-sheet, together with the correspondence, had been read, the constitution of the League was brought up for final approval. The only alteration suggested, and universally approved, was the addition of a clause to By-law II., by which the third year probationers of the hospital may be admitted as Associates to the League, but without voting powers.

A letter from the Society for State Registration was read, and the League Secretary was instructed to answer.

A resolution was then passed: "That the R.S.H. League approves of the principle of State Registration for Nurses, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Secretary of the Society for State Registration."

The General Council then entertained the Sisters and senior nurses of the hospital at tea on the tennis court, and afterwards inspected the nearly-completed Nurses' Home.

### The American Nursing World.

The Philadelphia Hospital (Blockley) is known to English nurses as the institution in which Miss Alice Fisher laboured so arduously for the last years of her valuable life, and it is of interest to us to watch the progress of nursing work there. Miss Margaret Donahoe, of the Massachusetts General Hospital Training School at Boston, has just been appointed as Chief Nurse—the position held by Miss Fisher—Miss Marion Smith having accepted the position of Superintendent of the University of Pennsylvania Hospital at Philadelphia.

Miss Maud Banfield, Superintendent of the Polyclinic Hospital in Philadelphia, has had a charming little house adjoining the hospital given to her as a residence by the hospital trustees. This is the second instance, we believe, where a woman Superintendent has had a private residence given her, Miss Allerton, of the Homœopathic Hospital in Rochester, being the first. The Polyclinic Hospital is building a commodious Nurses' Home, new servants' dormitories and laundry, with an electric lighting and heating plant. The nurses' present quarters, which were designed for private patients' rooms, will now be used for their original purpose.

The superintendents of training-schools in Chicago have formed an association for better acquaintance and mutual help. The Society is an outgrowth of the committee work done in the State Association, which proved very clearly the need of cohesion, and it is hoped and believed that much will be done to improve the standards of nurses and nursing in Chicago. Meetings will be held monthly. Miss Isabel McIsaac is the chairman.

The Cook County Hospital, in Chicago, at which Miss McIsaac is Superintendent of Nurses, will have the addition of two pavilions this summer, which will give it 1,250 beds. One pavilion will be for contagious diseases only, with 150 beds, and the other for children, with 100 beds. What a splendid clinical sphere for training!

The sixth annual convention of the National Association of Nurses was held this year in Boston. Miss Mary Riddle presided. It was a most enjoyable and instructive gathering. All the training-schools and kindred institutions in the city vied with one another in offering hearty hospitality. The officers for the coming year are:—Honorary President, Mrs. Hunter Robb; President, Miss Mary M. Riddle; First Vice-President, Miss Sara Rudden; Second Vice-President, Miss Annie F. Hutchison; Treasurer, Miss Tamar E. Healy; Secretary, Miss Mary E. Thornton.

It appears as if the National Association of

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)