

## The American Nursing World.

Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee's offer to fit out a nursing staff for service with the Japanese Army has been accepted by the Japanese Minister in Washington on behalf of his Government, and Dr. McGee and a staff of nurses have left the States to establish a field hospital in Japan. Committees of women in different States are to be formed to raise funds to cover the cost of the expedition. More nurses will follow if the subscriptions are generous.

A ceremonious uniform has been adopted by the Spanish-American War Nurses, of which Dr. McGee is President, to be worn on occasions of ceremony. It is to be of white linen—severely simple in make—with Puritan cap and no apron. The distinctive feature is the brassard, which is to be of white flannel sewn round the left sleeve, and has embroidered on it in blue silk the cross of the Society, and the letters S. A. W. N. above it and U. S. A. below.

Canada is sending one nurse to the Far East. Miss Margaret C. McDonald, of Pictou County, Nova Scotia, who has been selected for service in Japan, was one of the Canadian nurses who went to South Africa during the Boer War.

Assemblyman Wade has introduced a Bill in the Assembly at Albany, U.S.A., amending the code of civil procedure so as to place trained nurses with physicians and clergymen among privileged witnesses who are not compelled to disclose information obtained while attending a patient. The object of this Bill is not only to protect the nurse, but also to prevent the employment of nurses as detectives, in which capacity, it is said, nurses have figured in several important legal cases.

Mr. Gallinger has introduced in the Senate of the United States a Bill for the establishment and organisation of a Nurse Corps of trained women nurses in the United States Navy, which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs. It is to be hoped that this Bill will have better luck than those introduced last Session.

Three Greek maidens, two sent by the Crown Princess Sophia and one inspired by her own endeavour, arrived recently in New York, says the *American Journal of Nursing*, and for four years will devote their time to advanced study as nurses. Two are sturdy descendants of the heroes that held the pass at Thermopylae, and the third, though a Greek, was born and lived in Turkish territory. On their arrival they went direct to the Greek hotel in Forty-second Street, and from there they went to Boston, two to begin their studies in the Baptist Hospital

there, and one at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Matilda Devrishoglou is a native of Brousa, Turkey, and last year was graduated from the American College at Smyrna. The maids of Princess Sophia are Miss Andro Meike Kalaphati, the daughter of a Greek merchant, and Miss Eliphthera Patalon, the daughter of a teacher on the island of Kithera. They were graduated from the St. Sophia Children's Hospital, founded three years ago by the Crown Princess.

## The Nurses' Missionary Union.

On Tuesday, March 8th, an interesting evening was spent, in connection with the Nurses' Missionary Union, at 124, Harley Street, where Mr. and Mrs. McAdam Eccles most hospitably entertained a specially-invited number of nurses, representing many of the London hospitals.

The object of the gathering was to have a conference of nurses to discuss the possibilities and difficulties of forming and sustaining Christian unions and missionary interest among the nursing staffs of the London hospitals. All took part freely in this open discussion, each nurse having been previously supplied with an agenda of the points to be discussed, so that all came prepared to tell of the special difficulties or opportunities in their own hospitals, and to pass on helpful suggestions and workable methods to the others.

After "tea and coffee" the meeting was begun by hymn and prayer, and Mrs. Howard Taylor, of China (authoress of "Pastor Hsi"), gave a most helpful devotional address, and a short and stirring account of missionary work in China, and of the appalling ignorance and cruelty of native medical and surgical practice there, and showed the consequently illimitable scope of blessing and usefulness that lies before a trained Christian nurse in that vast and needy land. All hearts were moved by this address, and it was with quickened interest that we began to confer together how best to bring home to the nursing profession in our big hospitals the great need of the world beyond our island shores, and how nurses can best prepare themselves, by studying the Bible and gaining knowledge of the work of medical missions abroad, to take their peculiar and important share in this great work, which is such a glorious means of bringing to our less favoured fellow-creatures healing and relief to their suffering bodies and the knowledge of Christ as the Saviour of the world to their sad and sinful hearts.

I shall be glad to answer any nurses desiring to know more about the Nurses' Missionary Union. Letters should be addressed to me at 26, Horbury Crescent, Notting Hill Gate, W.

K. MILLER,

Secretary.

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