

had had, and would have, on women. He wished to bring forward the fact that men had been affected by it, and what effect it had on them. He spoke as chairman of a department that had to work much with women, and knew their value. He had been deeply affected by this universal and unusual demonstration, which had shown what women could do when they held together. They had proffered to all an enormous amount of material, and those who had been accustomed to scientific work must allow that the material had been excellently divided. The speeches had certainly not all been equally valuable, but always to the purpose and without phrases.

He had been most struck by the differentiating notes between men and women that had been shown. While the man was satisfied with purely material explanations, women were animated in addition by a deeply spiritual feeling that could not fail to make an impression. One felt that the common basis of the meetings had been the desire of the women to give their whole strength for the common good of the community. They had turned to their foes, their friends, and to those who were indifferent. All three would strengthen their cause; they would fight their foes, and arouse the lukewarm. He himself had found in his public relations with women that their work was not the same as that of men, though equal in value. Love and Motherhood were the characteristic features of womanhood. But man no longer required only passive, but also aiding love from woman. To-day the wise woman who knew life was prized; she alone could educate her children. Whilst man in his efforts started from a technical point, she started from a spiritual one. The ideal goal and the highest morality, about which so much had been said here, and which should be roused in man, exists where man has the highest respect for woman. He himself was only a single fighter for this good cause, but other men would soon join to help women in the fight against evil and sin.

It is impossible in a class journal, such as the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, to touch even briefly on the many interesting papers read in the various sections, but which were unconnected with nursing. It must suffice to say that the standard of excellence maintained throughout was a high one, that the papers presented were intensely interesting, and that in many instances the audience not only had the benefit of the conclusions of experts, but also a rare intellectual treat.

THE RECEPTION AT THE RATHAUS.

As it began, so the great Congress ended, in a magnificent spectacle and banquet. The Lord Mayor, or Oberbürgermeister, of Berlin, supported by his colleagues, and Ministers, invited upwards of a thousand members of the Congress to a reception at the Rathaus on Saturday night, and there entertained them in right civic style. It was a very

great occasion. The splendid Banqueting Hall, all glorious within, was resplendent with light; a fine band played a triumphant march, and the thousand guests rushed in and seated themselves at the hospitable board, a board laden with roses, and meats such as the epicure loveth. Before every seat upstood a little brown bear, about eight inches high, holding in his fore-paws a lovely rose, and containing sweeties. These little bears were of heraldic significance. They appear in the arms of the City of Berlin, and presumably trace their connection with the city to the time of the Margrave Albert, the Bear, in the twelfth century, if this is not an etymological fancy of later date. At the end of supper each guest was given a box, in which to take away the little bear in memory of a great historic occasion.

The Oberbürgermeister, seated at the high table, had on his right Frau Marie Stritt, and on his left Mrs. May Wright Sewall, and on either side the chief officials of the Congress. Never was a more brilliant and inspiring scene, and, as he rose to speak, the whole audience listened eagerly.

THE OBERBÜRGERMEISTER'S SPEECH.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—To-day's feast has a peculiarly important meaning. For the first time these halls see women gathered in far greater numbers than men; for the first time the citizens of the capital of the German Empire give official greeting to women. How can we explain this thing? Have the citizens of Berlin failed in the past in the necessary politeness towards women? Not at all. He would be a poor citizen whose heart did not glow with young love for the woman of his choice, who did not own with heartfelt thankfulness what he owed to the woman of his home, the mother of his children, who did not keep the memory of his own dear mother as a precious jewel in his heart. But the homage that is given to-day does not spring from the sacred feeling common to all men. The woman of our day does not wish to be restricted to house and family. She will, according to the altered economic and legal circumstances, stand by the man in society and State, and take a greater share in public life. She will accept new duties and desires new rights. What vast fields she demands for her activity, and how far she plants her goal, the International Women's Congress of this week has shown us.

I can summarise the impression of these meetings by saying that there is no field of human activity, there is no human interest that is foreign to the woman of to-day. The movement is not yet over; many maxims that stand to-day for unchallenged truths need examination and correction, much that in theory seems easily and lightly won will be found in practice to be only gained by winding and difficult paths. But who will deny that the Woman's Movement of to-day, which presses forward with the irresistible power of an elemental force, has

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