

"It certainly was never submitted to Miss Guthrie Wright, when we affiliated with the Queen's Institute. It had never been brought to my notice till this hurried meeting. Still, there it was, and revived for this one purpose—i.e., an open door for the advertised nurse, who should produce testimonials. . . . There was nothing for it but patience till the annual meeting, and then arrange for a revision of this Constitution, which clearly had been framed under two conditions which no longer exist—(a) Cottage Hospital, which with common consent was closed when Oban got hers, and the money gathered for its maintenance, along with district nursing, was by subscribers voted for the further development of the district nursing. (b) Up to within a period of three or four years Tobermory had a spare nurse to send to outlying districts in cases of need—a boon we were very thankful for, but no longer needed. Under these circumstances, therefore, a motion was proposed to bring this Constitution up to date.

"I made it clear in letters beforehand to the Secretary and Chairman that the abrogation of this by-law must be obtained if we were to be true to our affiliation to the Queen's Institute, and in the business statement I read to the meeting, before the vote was taken, I commented on the anomaly of many of its conditions.

"In a meeting of this description it is difficult to remember every point, especially when one thought there are primary principles which people do not need to be taught when ten years old in nursing questions. But here let me express to the many medical men of our county, who gave their names to us at the outset to encourage the public, my deep regret that their opinions and well-known wishes as to thorough training in those with whom they have to deal, should be entirely ignored, as during the past year I have, of course, consulted them as to the danger of letting this by-law be revived. The amendment was put for the *status quo* of this Constitution, which no longer is true to facts. It was impossible not to see that opposition to any change was arranged beforehand, and the vote went overwhelmingly for resistance to any change.

"So there was but one thing left for me to do (with the representatives from Tiree and Kilfinichen), which was to resign all responsibility for what has for so long been known as the 'North Argyllshire.' I hope my friends will remember in severing my tie as President of what is now really a group in a large county scheme, this means no diminution of interest nor work on behalf of our trained nursing. My office of Vice-President under the Dowager Duchess of Argyll precludes this, besides the personal work which I began under my father, the late Duke. I always hoped for an ultimate union of forces. This is the view of our President of all Scotland, H.R.H. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, who lent the North her name, when we were working on lines in accordance with her well-known views. . . . I know I voice the poorest person in our lonely islands when I say in conclusion—I take no responsibility, except with the fully trained, and the departmental nurses, and both of these, to work under and with the doctors, whose kindness and sympathy during many years now I have found to be unflinching. Of course they understand that our nurses, when not engaged with them in acute cases, are wished by us to visit the chronic sick or bed-ridden. Indeed in these cases they are, or ought to be, priceless assistants to our often over-worked parish doctors."

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE QUEEN AND THE EAST-END POOR.—It is announced that the Queen has the intention of starting a scheme with the object of supplying the wants of the poorest and neediest of London. The scheme, if carried out, will be generally on the lines of the great Hospital Fund with which the King is identified. The poor of the East-end, in whose welfare the Queen is greatly interested, will, it is said, receive the principal benefits of this movement.

A NEW THEATRE AT THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL.—The Duchess of Albany has consented to open the new operating theatre at the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, at half-past three o'clock on Saturday, October 8th, and to attend a harvest festival service in the chapel, where Bishop Welldon will preach.

MEMORIAL TO MR. WILSON BARRETT.—A subscription towards a memorial of the late Mr. Wilson Barrett, probably in the form of beds for the dramatic profession in one of the London hospitals, is being organised by Mr. Beerbohm Tree.

LIVERPOOL COUNTY HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.—The scheme for establishing "The Liverpool County Hospital for Children" at Heswall has met with gratifying success. A most useful work in regard to the treatment of chronic diseases in children has been done for some years in some rooms specially allotted for the purpose at the Convalescent Home, West Kirby. This temporary accommodation, however, was found to be altogether inadequate, and it was decided to raise funds with which to erect a suitable building. An anonymous donor promised £5,000 on condition that a total sum of £30,000 was subscribed; this amount has now been obtained, with the exception of about £200 or £300, which the Committee hope will soon be forthcoming. A charming site has been secured, and plans are already out, so that building operations will soon commence.

AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS.—At the instance of the French Government an International Congress will be held at The Hague shortly to consider definite regulations for hospital ships in time of naval warfare.

A NAVAL TUBERCULOSIS CAMP IN AMERICA.—The Surgeon-General of the United States Navy has, says the *British Medical Journal*, completed plans for an outdoor hospital for men suffering from tuberculosis. He proposes that such men shall not be discharged or become pensioners, but shall be subject to treatment under conditions that promise a restoration to health and a preservation of useful men to the service. The Surgeon-General proposes that a farm should be purchased somewhere near the coast, at an elevation of about 2,000 ft., to which naval tuberculous patients may be sent. He believes that the camp should not be too far from the coast, or at an altitude which will make it impossible for patients to return to sea duty. He also suggests that the camp shall be open to army patients, in return for the courtesy shown the navy at the army sanatorium at Fort Bayard, New Mexico.

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