

staff. Among the visitors were Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C., Lady Superintendent of the Richmond Hospital; Miss Hosford, Lady Superintendent Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital; Miss Hughes, Lady Superintendent Portrane Asylum; and several others who hold responsible positions in Dublin and the neighbourhood.

### Irish Nurses' Association.

The first of a series of lectures was given at the rooms of the Association, 86, Lower Leeson Street, Dublin, on Tuesday evening, November 1st, by Dr. M'Vittie, whose subject was "Physical Culture." The attendance of nurses was large and representative. Mrs. Kildare Tracey presided, and welcomed Dr. M'Vittie in a few appreciative words. The lecture was entitled, "Are we doing the Best for our Children?" Dr. M'Vittie said that he was especially pleased at having an opportunity of addressing so large a body of nurses, who, above all people, have it in their power to enlighten parents upon this important matter of physical culture, and of pointing out the evils resulting from the present-day system of excessive mental pressure upon very young children, where "the demon of what are called examinations—that is, question and answer, percentage, and result fees, dominate every place and every hour. The child is nothing, the examination is everything." Dr. M'Vittie's lecture was illustrated by a series of highly-interesting lantern slides, showing children trained after the Swedish method from the youngest age to use their physical and mental powers in due proportion, and contrasted them with boys and girls brought up under the system that prevails in these countries—so wanting in care of, or thought for, the child itself. The subject of this lecture was of the most absorbing interest, especially for an audience of nurses, and Dr. M'Vittie was heard throughout with keen appreciation. At the close of the lecture a hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Miss Haughton, Lady Superintendent of Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, seconded by Miss Roberts, Portobello House, and carried with applause.

### A Presentation.

At a meeting of the doctors and nurses at Belvidere Hospital, Glasgow, held in the recreation hall, Miss Stevenson, who has been assistant Matron for some time, and has just left to take over the duty of Matron of a hospital at Bolton, was presented by Dr. Brownlie, physician-superintendent, on behalf of the staff, with a handsome silver tea service and oak tray. Mrs. Sinclair, Matron, also made a few remarks, and Miss Stevenson replied in suitable terms, after which a very enjoyable social gathering took place.

### General Report of the "Association pour le Developpement de l'Assistance aux Malades," Paris.

(Continued from p. 385.)

The organisation, form, and aims of the Society are set forth in the by-laws, which, in a condensed outline, may be summed up as follows:—

The title, "Association for the Development of Aid ('Assistance') for the Sick," covers a larger purpose than nursing alone, as shown by the three branches of the plan, viz:—1. The establishment and maintenance of a school for training nurses. 2. The establishment and maintenance of hospitals, homes, crèches (day nurseries), infirmaries, or any similar institution. 3. The perfecting of nursing in private duty among all classes of society.

The Association has four classes of members, whose fees or gifts form a nucleus for the financial basis, and it is managed by a council of not over thirty members. This Council is assisted by an Advisory and a Medical Committee.

The school, founded to form a staff which should be capable of carrying on the work of the various institutions established by the Association, also aims at fitting women for an independent and honourable career as nurses.

The course of training lasts for two years, and comprises theoretical and practical teaching. The practical work is given in the hospitals and other institutions founded or to be founded by the Association, and in the public hospitals. (Here an interesting and significant point is to be noted. When the Association started five years ago this by law read "and, if there is place for them, in the public hospitals." This year an amendment will cause this by-law to read "and in the public hospitals.")

At the end of two years the pupils who have passed their final examinations are called "Assistants," and in this capacity they will undertake work either in private families, or in hospitals to which they may be appointed.

The administration of the school in general is guided by three medical men, who, upon the recommendation of the medical committee, are chosen for three years by the Council, and who consult with the Council in the affairs of the school.

The school is in charge of a Directress appointed by the Council, and follows internal regulations approved by the Council.

Hospitals, infirmaries, &c., may be founded and maintained by the Association, either with the concurrence of the municipality, the State, or private charity. All such enterprises shall be decided by the Council according to the resources of the Association and under suitable conditions as agreed by the Council.

Nurses for private duty shall work under the

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)