

years devoted toil in these distant parts. At no time was sympathy more needed by these servants of the Crown than when they were struck down at the post of duty, perhaps of wounds, perhaps by malaria, when racked with fever they were surrounded only by dark alien faces. They have a right to claim our sympathy, and therefore he pleaded for an extension of the work of the Association. The adoption of the Report was seconded by Sir Frederick Hodgson, K.C.M.G., who spoke of the value of the work done by the Association and urged an improvement in the position of the nurses. He thought that those who returned for a second period of service might be placed on the fixed establishment, and so be entitled to pensions when they retired. He referred to his experience in two Colonies, the Gold Coast and Demerara. On the Gold Coast the death rate had decreased from 80 and 58 per thousand. In effecting this reduction the Colonial Nursing Association could certainly claim a share. In Demerara the Association had sent them a most excellent Superintendent for the Hospital.

Mrs. Pember Reeves, who referred to the loss New Zealand had sustained by the death of Mr. Seddon, said that in New Zealand there was a fairly plentiful supply of nurses at the present time. In her childish days this was not the case, and she gave some amusing examples of the nurse of the period, her chief recollections of her being that she was stout and cross, and consumed enormous quantities of buttered toast. In one instance when a new baby was crying with the heat the nurse took off all its clothes and put a perforated zinc meat dish cover over it, which seemed a very efficacious treatment, the crying stopping at once. In New Zealand the climate was on the side of the patients, in many other colonies it was not so, and the relief of relatives at home to know that trained nursing was within reach of the sick was great.

The meeting concluded with the usual votes of thanks.

Nursing in France.

Dr. Anna Hamilton, the Directrice, presented an interesting report at the Annual General Meeting of the Protestant Hospital, Bordeaux, in which she states that more and more the hospital is admitting fresh patients, the public appearing to understand that it desires to aid all who need care, and not only a group

of old habitués. Many patients have come from long distances to place themselves under the care of the hospital, in which they have full confidence. As an illustration of this Dr. Hamilton states that one woman with a badly injured hand arrived at the hospital, relating that she had been told on the quay: "Do not go to a chemist, run quickly to the Rue Casignol."

The utmost peace and goodwill reigns in the wards, the result of the confidence possessed by the patients in the goodness and capacity of those who care for them. The nurses are taught that in a hospital sympathy is most essential, and they have before them the example of Dr. Dmeons, Surgeon-in-Chief, who is always full of concern and regard for the humblest. There are, says Dr. Hamilton, nowadays too many doctors who only see the lesion, and do not think of the patient as an unfortunate being who must be helped not only by science but also by sympathy. "No one," she says, "is better able by example to inculcate kindness, and the most miserable human beings and the pupils cannot fail to vividly appreciate the consideration shown."

The nursing school has parted with regret from Mademoiselle Marguerite Larmanon, who occupied the position of *chef-taine* for about a year. The climate of Bordeaux did not suit her and she is now working at Pau and many good wishes follow her for her success in her new work. Her place is filled by Mademoiselle Rachel Debard, a former pupil, full of devotion to her difficult task, which includes supervision on four floors, where are working numerous pupils who change work every three months.

The pupil nurses now number 17, and the fame of the hospital as a training school is certainly increasing, for many applications for admission as pupils have been received and many inquiries respecting the methods of training employed have been received from civil hospitals, mayors, general councils and prefectures.

The pupils have found posts even before they have finished their training, for the nursing world is not over-stocked as are other occupations open to women.

A regular course in administrative work has now been established for the pupils who, under the supervision of Mademoiselle Schweighaensér who is most indefatigable, learn to make purchases, to judge commodities, and to keep the household accounts of a large establishment.

This instruction is very useful to the nurses who are often called upon to manage establishments.

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