

it calls upon each individual member not to be driven by circumstances, but to hold her own and play her part in the varied life of to-day. Great stress is laid on the good influence of nurses on the sick. The title of "Sister" carries with it a very human meaning; "Try to fit yourself, not only technically and practically, but mentally and spiritually, for the great work you have undertaken."

Apparently exception has been taken to the fact that the Association has laid great stress on the material want and need of nurses. But, says the editor, this is so great that it is impossible to overlook it. To judge by the editor's tone, the business arrangements for private nurses outside religious institutions are still in a very backward state. She points out that this paper, it is hoped, will be a bond between German nurses, and calls upon them to be charitable and tolerant to one another, tolerance, she notices, not being a common characteristic of Sisters. And she speaks of the union of their association with those of other nurses throughout the world through the International Council of Nurses, which will give them wider and fuller interests.

The leading article is followed by an interesting and full account of the arrangements for training probationers at the town hospital of Düsseldorf, many of which sound very familiar, an excellent translation of Miss Dock's article on Holidays at the Nurses' Settlement Farm from the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, instructions for forwarding statistics to the association, various news items, the usual correspondence and advertisements. Altogether a very promising little paper, to which its elder sister wishes all good luck and good fortune.

M. MOLLETT.

Dr. Willis E. Ford, Medical Director of the beautiful new hospital lately presented to the City of Utica, says:—"It has some features which are unusual, among which are two landscape windows, out of the principal ward, overlooking the Mohawk Valley. There is also a large solarium at the top of the house, reached by an elevator." We like the idea of these "landscape windows," by which we gather that the hospital is so situated that there is a fine view to be seen from the wards. The day is gone by when houses are built in valleys, shut in very often by trees and walls; and surely our hospitals should, if possible, be so situated that those within can enjoy the varied beauties of nature, to say nothing of fresh air. In this connection few hospitals in the world have a more magnificent outlook than St. Thomas', in London, built on the banks of our great, ever-rolling river, to right and left extensive ever-changing views, and facing the stately Houses of Lords and Commons, it stands indeed on one of the most stupendous sites in the world.

The number of deaths from enteric fever among soldiers in India is beginning to alarm the military medical authorities there. Inquiry shows that the introduction of the disease is due most frequently to newly-arrived regiments, and it has been decided that all detachments shall on arrival at a station be subjected to segregation for twenty-eight days.

Midwifery Matters.

In our summary for 1905 we said, referring to the Central Midwives' Board, "The composition of the Board shows clearly what has always been its weakness, that no one member of the Board has a seat as the direct representative of the midwives themselves." As Macmillan's lay edited nursing paper takes exception to this statement, we repeat it, giving our reasons for having made it, reasons which we think will commend themselves to our midwife readers. We may inform them, in passing, that the midwifery matters in this Journal are dealt with, not from a lay standpoint as are Messrs. Macmillan's, but from that of a trained nurse holding the certificate of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, who is also a registered midwife, who speaks, therefore, from the inside not the outside. The radical difference in the outlook shows how important it is to midwives for their affairs to be dealt with by those who have the right to speak authoritatively upon them—namely, by a member of their own body.

Our lay contemporary disputes our statement because it asserts that the Midwives' Institute nominates a medical man as a member of the Central Midwives' Board, Dr. Cullingworth and Dr. Dakin having both acted in this capacity. Now we wish to avoid all reference to the personality of these medical representatives of the midwives. We would only ask one question. Would medical practitioners be satisfied to be "represented" on the General Medical Council by midwives? The suggestion is grotesque.

Further, we did not say that no Society of Midwives nominated a representative on the Board, and it is impossible fairly to twist our remarks to convey this construction. The Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons nominate representatives on the General Medical Council, but these represent the Chartered Bodies appointing them, and not the profession at large. In the same way the representative of the Incorporated Midwives' Institute voices the views of his few constituents, not of midwives at large.

By a "direct representative" we understand a midwife elected after an appeal to all the midwives on the Roll. Such an appeal to this electorate can alone make a midwife a direct representative of the midwives. She must be one of them and elected by them. The midwives on the roll number upwards of 22,000; those belonging to the Midwives' Institute but a few hundreds. Further, the difference between a *nominated* and an *elected* representative must be patent to all.

The Midwives' Board has been fortunate in the majority of the members composing it, especially in its liberal and fair-minded chairman, but its composition is distinctly bad, for no provision is made for a single seat to be held by a midwife, and, as a matter of fact, only one (Miss Rosalind Paget) is a member at the present time. Its composition, a thing quite apart from its personality, cannot satisfy any thinking midwife, however it may satisfy lay journalists, posing as specially qualified to deal with midwifery matters.

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