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Editorial.

HONOURED GUESTS.

One of the pleasantest features of the Nursing Exhibition and Conference, organised by the Provisional Committee of the National Council of Nurses, and held at St. George's Hall, Mount Street, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last week, was the cordial goodwill which was so apparent between the representatives of the professions of medicine and nursing. It was essentially a Nurses' Exhibition, and they invited to it, as their honoured guests, distinguished members of the medical profession, who unanimously responded, took the greatest interest in the exhibits on view, presided over their deliberations with courtesy and kindness, and presented valuable papers on the subjects arranged, which were received with the greatest attention.

The right note was struck by Dr. Kelynack on the first evening when he addressed his hearers as "fellow workers," and this was maintained throughout the Conference by other medical men. The nurses on their side were delighted to show their appreciation of the kindness of busy medical men in thus coming amongst them, and harmony and good will prevailed.

We were carried back to the time before the medical officers of the R.B.N.A. attempted to dominate the nursing profession and so roused within the Association that spirit of revolt to tyranny which happily is inborn in the British nation. Once more it was demonstrated that the right line of organisation for nurses is to build up associations within their own ranks, and that these may be relied upon to give to the profession of medicine, to which they owe so much, the honour which is its due.

The scope of the Exhibition and Conference was as follows:—There were three

subjects dealt with in the papers presented: Tuberculosis, Maternity Nursing, and Mental Nursing, and the Exhibition was organised with reference to these subjects. The exhibit arranged by Miss Helen Todd dealt with the first subject, the St. John's House League organised a most complete maternity exhibit, and Bethlem sent exhibits bearing on the third section.

The various firms which arranged stands followed on the same lines. All kept in mind the scope of the Conference and the result was a very instructive and interesting Exhibition.

In addition to the foregoing the orders, medals, badges, and brassards collected by Miss Mollett, President of the Royal South Hants League, and the Journals edited and controlled by trained nurses formed a most interesting section.

Then there was the Social side of the Conference. On the first afternoon the members of the Provisional Committee held a Reception; on the second, Miss G. A. Rogers, Chairman of Provisional Committee, presided at an informal nursing discussion, when Miss Isla Stewart spoke on the organisation and purposes of Nurses' Leagues; and on the third afternoon, when Mrs. Bedford Fenwick presided, two brilliant speeches were made by Miss Mollett and Miss Wortabet, the one on the historical associations of Paris, and the other on the modern nursing movement in France. An organisation of nurses which can, with very little trouble, produce women possessed of such powers of organisation and varied knowledge on professional matters augurs well for the future development of nursing.

We heartily congratulate the hon. officers and members of the Exhibition Sub-Committee. If this can be done in the green tree, what can be done in the dry?

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