

of Mrs. Fenwick's suggestion in regard to the Matrons taking part in the examinations of nurses. In the practical part of an examination Matrons should play an important part. In regard to the question raised as to male attendants, he pointed out that the primary question was what was best for the patients. If it was proved that women nurses were best then the men would have to go to the wall. Asylums did not exist for the purpose of opening up a career for men. Still, it was absolutely certain that men would always be wanted.

Miss Stewart in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and speakers, which was carried by acclamation, said this was the first time such a conference had met, and only the fringe of the many important questions which mutually concerned hospital and asylum workers had been touched. She hoped it was only the beginning of such useful consultations amongst those who were interested in the welfare of the sick and the progress of nursing. This brought to a termination the very successful three days' conference and exhibition, organised by the Provisional Committee of the National Council of Nurses.

Irish Nurses' Association.

At a meeting of the Irish Nurses' Association, held at the Association rooms, 86, Lower Leeson Street, Dublin, last week, Dr. Katherine Maguire addressed the members on the subject of "Poor Law Reform." The whole matter is one which closely affects the interests of Irish nurses, and those who were present keenly appreciated the lucid and interesting way in which Dr. Maguire explained the leading points of the Report of the Viceregal Commission which, it will be remembered, was recently reviewed in these columns.

The League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

The Barts' League held its Winter Social Gathering in the Medical School Library at the Hospital on Saturday last. Miss Isla Stewart, kind and genial as ever, received the members, and sisters and nurses most hospitably dispensed tea and coffee and cakes and other toothsome dainties. The Home Sister, Miss Cutler received many congratulations on the medal recently awarded to her at the Cookery Exhibition at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster in the previous week.

There is such a spirit of *camaraderie* between Bart's nurses that the time passed all too quickly, and, one realised that amongst the many things Miss Stewart has done for nurses, not the least was the inauguration of the first, and very successful, League in this country.

Formation of a New Nurses' League in Bournemouth.

A meeting of the nurses of the Victoria and Bournemouth Nurses' Association was held at the Victoria Nurses' Hostel in Bournemouth on Monday, Dec. 10th, to consider the advisability of forming a Nurses' League in connection with the Association. The meeting was well attended, it being estimated that from 70 to 90 of the nurses belonging to the Association were present, besides the speakers who included Miss Mollett, Matron of the Royal South Hants Hospital, Southampton, and Vice-president of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, Miss Barton, Matron of the Chelsea Infirmary and Hon. Sec. of the Provisional Committee of the International Council of Nurses, Miss Todd of the Royal National Sanatorium, Bournemouth. Miss Georgina Scott was also present.

Miss Forrest who was voted to the chair with enthusiasm remarked that she had long wished that her nurses had some such bond as a League to draw them together, but she naturally thought that the initiative should not come from her. She had therefore been much pleased when some of the nurses had approached her on the subject; after several discussions with the senior nurses, it had been decided to call a meeting of the whole body of the Association, and when the objects of the League had been fully explained to ascertain whether they wished to found such a society; Miss Mollett, President of the League of Nurses belonging to the South Hants Hospital at Southampton, and Miss Barton, President of the Chelsea Infirmary Nurses League, had kindly come to explain the *raison d'être* of the Leagues connected with their institutions, and to give some idea of their working.

She then called upon Miss Barton, who read a paper describing the organisation of the Chelsea Infirmary Nurses' League, and spoke of the importance of League journals and badges. She showed how individual Leagues can be affiliated together in a National Council, which in its turn is affiliated to the International Council of Nurses, thus bringing the nurses of various countries into touch with one another.

Miss Mollett then gave one of her characteristic addresses, which was listened to with great attention. She began by asking why a League should be founded at all? She thought that nurses are apt to take too material a view of life and its surroundings, to ask rather "what is the good" of any new proposition,

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