

Philadelphia on May 8th, 9th, and 10th, was a most successful gathering, and some very interesting papers were presented. Miss L. L. Dock, Hon. Secretary, made announcements in regard to the International Conference at Paris. The Nurses' Associated Alumnae met at Richmond, Virginia, from May 14th to 16th.

In the out-patient department of the Massachusetts General Hospital, says Dr. Cabot, of Boston (and probably in most other hospitals), there occurs many times each year a scene not unlike that described in "Alice in Wonderland":

"Have some wine," said the Hatter.

"I don't see any wine," said Alice.

"There isn't any," said the Hatter.

Without any sense of the humour and pathos of the situation, we say (in substance) to many patients: "Take a vacation," or "Get a new job," "Change your job," "Get a truss." There is none in sight and no means of getting any. What do we do then? We pass cheerfully to the next patient.

The International Red Cross Conference.

An interesting programme has been arranged in connection with the International Red Cross Conference, which will take place at the Examination Hall on the Embankment, London, beginning on Tuesday, June 11th, and will be opened by Earl Roberts, K.G., V.C., President of the Conference.

The delegates are appointed (1) by the Government, (2) by the Central Red Cross Committee in each country. Amongst the women appointed as delegates are Miss Mabel T. Boardman, Member of the American Central Red Cross Committee, Mme. Pérouse, President, and two of the Vice-Presidents of the Union des Femmes de France, and three ladies who are members of the Association des Dames Françaises. Those appointed by our own Central Red Cross Committee include four ladies of title, and Switzerland sends Miss Alice Favre, President of the Société des Dames Genèveises de la Croix-Rouge.

Amongst the subjects suggested for discussion is the place of women in hospitals in war time, and the Red Cross Society of Hungary proposes a unanimous expression of homage to Florence Nightingale, and the foundation of a special Nightingale Fund to present an international medal to ladies specially distinguished in the noble duty of caring for the sick and wounded.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll has consented to distribute the St. John Ambulance Association's certificates to the successful candidates of No. 9 District of the Metropolitan Centre at Wellington Hall, St. John's Wood, on the evening of Saturday, June 15th.

Inspector-General Belgrave Ninnis, M.D., R.N., after inspecting the St. John Ambulance Brigade (No. 3 district) camp at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, recently, announced that the War Office had recently inquired whether the St. John Ambulance could, in case of war, take charge of the military hospitals of the United Kingdom and the Channel Islands, and so release the Royal Army Medical Corps for service abroad. The reply given was that the St. John Ambulance was prepared to undertake such duty.

The Lord Mayor, Sir William Treloar, last week opened the new wing of the Evelina Hospital for Sick Children, Southwark Bridge Road, S.E., which has been erected at a cost of £14,000, about half of which has still to be raised. The King's Fund has contributed £1,000, and Lord Rothschild has given a like amount. One of the wards is to be known as the Ada Lewis Ward, as a large bequest was left by the late Mr. Samuel Lewis on condition that his wife's name was associated with the project.

At the Annual Court of Governors of the Brompton Hospital, last week, it was reported that the Empress Eugénie had visited the sanatorium and given a donation. The determination of Opsonic Indices having become recognised as essential for the modern treatment of tuberculosis, acting upon the advice of their Medical Committee the Committee have established and equipped a Clinical Laboratory in order that every facility may be given for carrying out this and other important work connected with the department.

In a discussion at a meeting of the Birkenhead Guardians, when the question of appointing an Assistant Medical Officer was under discussion, and there were two women doctors as applicants, Dr. Martin said he was prejudiced against lady doctors, and he would not give three brass farthings for the man who was not. He spoke of an instance where an old man had on account of illness been advised to go into the workhouse infirmary. But when he was informed that a lady doctor was in charge of the department the old man said he would die first.

No one seems to have put on record one of the many instances in which a woman has not only said she would die, but has actually done so, rather than be attended by a male doctor.

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