

The monthly meeting of the Catholic Nurses' Association took place at the Visitation Convent, Harrow-on-the-Hill, on June 7th. The gathering was a very happy one, and the Sisters had made their bright and comfortable Guild Room particularly attractive, laughter and brightness pervaded the room, and in the pleasant influences those present forgot for a while the sufferings and sorrow of earth. After tea little parties of nurses strolled round the beautiful grounds, or enjoyed a walk in the fields, with views of the country, and the distant scenery, until the time came for Benediction, when the sermon was preached by the Right Reverend Monsignor Coke Robinson, who took for his subject the love of God.

The Sisters, who are in charge of the Guild, which now numbers about 60 members, are thoroughly conversant with nursing matters, and regard nursing not only as a high vocation and a justifiable means of making a livelihood, but understand that it is necessary to undergo a scientific and systematic training. They are broad-minded and saintly women whose influence cannot fail to be for good with nurses of that branch of the Catholic Church to which they belong.

The Marquis of Northampton opened the new headquarters of the London Biblewomen and Nurses' Mission, at Ranyard House, 25, Russell Square, on the completion of the jubilee year of its work. It was announced that Bible women and nurses had themselves collected £385, part of which had come from the very poor, as a token of gratitude to the workers of the mission. The staff now consists of from 80 to 90 trained Biblewomen, and from 65 to 70 trained hospital nurses, with a convalescent home at St. Leonards which receives 300 patients annually. The jubilee fund has reached £5,200.

The whole business of the Annual Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association was as usual conducted and expounded by the medical officers. On the State Registration question the Association is again wobbling, and appears to imagine that its scheme for granting Nursing Diplomas, without defining definite standards of either general or professional education, will commend itself as a substitute. It may do so to the uneducated and ill-trained section of the nursing community, but such a silly subterfuge will not for a moment deceive the responsible members of the profession.

With a view of gaining further information as to the practical value of Oxo as a recuperative agent, the Oxo Company has decided to offer twelve prizes for the most interesting reports from nurses of cases benefited by it. The first prize is £5 5s., the second £2 2s., and there are ten of £1 1s. each. Reports must not be more than 200 words in length, and must be sent before August 31st to "Oxo," Nurses' Department, 4, Lloyd's Avenue, E.C. The conditions will be found on page xii. of our advertisement columns.

The Ulster Branch of the Irish Nurses' Association have recently had the advantage of hearing two able lectures on the Nervous System, which were delivered in the Museum, Belfast, by Dr. McLeish, the second lecture being given on Wednesday in last week. The educational value of such lectures is very great, and the Ulster Branch is to be congratulated on the interesting series, which has been from time to time arranged for them.

Mrs. Greenwood, Superintendent of the Nurse Training School of the Jewish Hospital at Cincinnati, has been elected President of the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools, and the next annual meeting will be held at that city. Miss Banfield, Philadelphia, and Miss Henderson, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, are Vice-Presidents, and Miss Nevins, of Washington, Secretary.

"A History of Nursing."

The first volume of "A History of Nursing," written by Miss M. A. Nutting and Miss L. L. Dock, will shortly be published by Messrs. Putnam, and will be illustrated in the most interesting form.

We have been privileged to see the proof sheets, and have been amazed at the amount of information of the utmost historical value which they contain; of the spirit which inspires their inimitable style the names of the brilliant authors of the work are the best guarantee.

The story begins with the earliest available records of sanitary codes which were built up into health religions, and comes down through the ages wherever the care and rescue of the sick can be traced, through the pagan civilisations, the early Christian works of mercy, the long history of the religious nursing orders, military nursing orders of the crusades, the secular communities of the later middle ages, and the revival of the Deaconess orders which culminated in the modern revival under Miss Nightingale. The work is the most serious attempt yet made to collect the scattered records of the care of the sick.

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