

## Mlle. CHAPTAL.

Mlle. Chaptal referred to the theoretical training of the nurse, and said that care should be taken to keep this within well defined limits.

With regard to the fight against tuberculosis, she said prevention was better than cure. England and Germany were in advance from this point of view, but she hoped her own country would advance in this direction.

## MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick said she quite endorsed the opinion expressed that morning that obstetric work should be included in a nurse's training. In England it was much neglected, and nurses acquired it for the most part at their own expense. If they agreed to serve a hospital for four years she thought their obstetric training should be included.

In regard to the feeding of infants, she thought the mother should perform this duty if she were physically capable, but some infants would be starved if fed only in this way, and it was, therefore, absolutely necessary that the milk supply should be under strict supervision, and that pure milk should be obtainable by the poor.

The education of invalid children had been much neglected in the past, but now special schools were being established for them in London, and the London County Council was bringing education, by means of special teachers, to chronic children in hospitals.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19th.

THE PUBLIC AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRAINED NURSE (*Continued*).

The Afternoon Meeting was opened by Dr. Anna Hamilton, Hon. Vice-President of the International Council of Nurses for France, President of the Session, who introduced the first speaker, Miss Amy Hughes, General Superintendent of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses.

## THE NURSING OF THE POOR IN THEIR OWN HOMES.

By MISS AMY HUGHES.

*General Superintendent, Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, London.*

Miss Hughes, in her most admirable paper, sketched the rise of the district nursing movement in England, beginning with the first efforts of St. John's House in 1854, which, however, were primarily of the nature of training. Then the introduction of a district nurse into the slums of Liverpool by Mr. William Rathbone in 1859, and later the foundation of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute in 1887 by the late Queen, through which, by large experience, the best plan of work has been evolved. The paper was read in French by Mme. Kriegk, as English nurses are well acquainted with the work of Queen's Nurses. It will appear in French in some of the foreign journals.

At the conclusion of the paper Miss Hughes gave a short résumé of it in English, and prefaced her remarks by referring to the papers on school nursing, which had been read in the morning. She said that long ago the managers of schools in the United Kingdom were much distressed at children being kept out of school by their mothers, and Queen's nurses were asked to go and see what could be done. From this point the school nursing work had developed. Queen's Nurses had for many years been doing this work, and were doing it still, with this difference: they went to the mothers and educated them to keep their children clean, and showed them how this should be done. The whole work of district nurses was one educational effort. They turned up their sleeves, and set to work, and talked as they worked. In this way, going as specially trained workers amongst the people, they were able to help them and to make it clearer to them how they might have healthier and happier homes.

MISS HARRIET FULMER,  
*Superintendent, Visiting Nurses' Association,  
Chicago.*

Miss Fulmer said that house to house nursing in the homes of the less fortunate classes is as old as the nursing profession. The district nurse has come as a modern agency to preach the good effect of cleanliness and sunshine and fresh air to the people in their own environment. What she does for both the large and small communities is not alone to alleviate suffering as a humanitarian, but to teach and preach continually in all lines of social betterment work. In America the growth of the work in a few years has been wonderful. It is most absorbing even to those not engaged in it. The field of work of the Visiting Nurse is unlimited. She solves many problems and acts as an adjunct to many agencies which, without her, would be handicapped in their usefulness.

## THE NURSES' SETTLEMENT, NEW YORK.

By MISS LILLIAN D. WALD, R.N.

*Head Worker.*

Miss Wald's most interesting and comprehensive paper was read in French by Mrs. Nathan, of New York. In it she showed the extraordinary development of the Settlement work, started thirteen years ago by herself and another nurse with no defined programme other than the desire to find the sick and to nurse them, and to establish themselves socially in that neighbourhood of New York in which they desired to work.

From the beginning the basic principles upon which the work was administered were: (1) That nursing of the sick in their own homes should be done seriously and adequately. (2) That its etiquette and discipline as far as the doctor and patients are concerned should be analogous to the established system of the private nurse, namely, that the district nurse should be ready to respond to the calls for her from the people themselves, as well as from the doctors, and with

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