

is the first gathering of its kind to be held in the United States. It will be a significant meeting of nurses who are engaged in various forms of social betterment work. Addresses will be given by nurses and social workers prominent in the uplifting of health conditions amongst the people.

At the recent distribution of prizes to the Nurses of the Albert Edward Hospital of Kolhapur an interesting report was presented by Dr. Krishnabai Kelakvar. A class of nurses was first founded by Dr. George Sinclair soon after the foundation of the hospital sixteen years ago, and had to be recruited from amongst women who could scarcely read in the vernacular. But with careful teaching these nurses were able to do good work. Two were commissioned for personal attendance upon the Ranee, and the others were drafted on to the hospital staff where for twelve years they have given great satisfaction to the State and hospital authorities. They have rendered great assistance in the surrounding districts in difficult labour cases, their services being constantly requisitioned over an area of from 10 to 30 miles to relieve women in delayed labour. Now middle class families have begun to avail themselves of their services in ordinary labour cases. Slowly tradition is yielding before them and they are effecting amongst the conservative high-class women, by their practical work, what it has been impossible to accomplish by oral teaching.

In April, 1905, owing to the rapidly increasing demand for nurses another class was opened, and the Maharajah showed his sympathy with the project by sanctioning scholarships to meet the necessary expenditure. This time it was possible to secure a better educated type of nurse, and the work of well mannered nurses did much to popularise western treatment in the eyes of the public. After a two years' course ten out of the twelve pupils passed the final examination, and were at the recent prize giving, awarded certificates entitling them to practise as nurses and midwives. Of these 10 three are Brahmin widows, one is a Mahomedan, one a Rajput, one a Koli, three Marathas, and one a Jain. This Jain nurse is probably the first in her caste in the whole Bombay Presidency to take up the profession, and Dr. Kelakvar says "it is interesting to note that in spite of being a mother of three children she has stood first in this class." We congratulate Dr. Kelakvar on the result of her efforts, and heartily wish success to our Indian sisters in the work upon which they are entering.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Her Majesty has graciously given permission for the North-Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, to be in future known as "The Queen's Hospital for Children," and a special meeting of the Governors is to be held on April 2nd to give effect to the change of name.

The Prince of Wales presided at Marlborough House at the annual meeting of the King's Hospital Fund. The total receipts were £484,069, including a special donation of £100,000 from Mr. Andrew Carnegie; annual subscriptions, £25,412; League of Mercy, £18,000; Lewis estate, £212,500; and legacies, £69,472. The amount distributed was £121,000. "Hitherto," said the Prince of Wales, "the hospitals with which we have dealt have been those in the county of London, or within seven miles of Charing Cross. It is felt that the time has come when we should enlarge our area. The radius from Charing Cross has, therefore, been extended from seven to nine miles. We also propose this year to consider the claims of consumption sanatoria in the country which take a large proportion of their patients from London."

The Earl Cawdor, the Treasurer of the London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, W.C., has received £1,000, a legacy from the estate of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Mason, of St. Leonards-on-Sea.

The Duke of Leinster has sent a donation of £100 to the Countess of Dudley's Nursing Association to mark his twenty-first birthday; and he has declared his intention of giving a larger annual subscription to this excellent work.

The Municipal Journal recently published a forecast of the Report of the Royal Commission on the Poor Laws, asserting that the Commission will recommend the abolition of the Poor Law Authorities, and the merging of their work and administration into the corresponding services of the municipal and local governing bodies. The agglomerate institution, known as the "Workhouse," will, if this principle be adopted, give place to an elaborate and scientific system of classification. The various duties of the Poor Law authorities would, under the scheme at present in the minds of the Royal Commission, be taken over by the different departments of the County and County Borough governing bodies.

Dr. Waldo, the City Coroner, calls in the *Medical Press* for a more stringent law in the administration of anæsthetics, and of notification of deaths resulting therefrom. He suggests that public institutions should keep a register of administrations of anæsthetics, and that coroners

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