

closely with all organised charities, in order to be able to call upon them for trained investigators, disbursers, organisers, and visitors when any such disaster or calamity as the San Francisco earthquake may occur. Nothing could be more wise or intelligent. Thus, in every direction, training, experience under instruction, and expert knowledge are becoming more and more indispensable, and soon only the dunces will be willing to employ the untrained or ill-trained person for important work such as the rescue of humanity from sickness and disaster.

#### THE TUBERCULOSIS CONGRESS.

The preparations for the Tuberculosis Congress are advancing. A programme of some twenty odd practical papers has been drawn up for the nurses' session. Exhibits by nurses or nursing societies will not be classed separately, but with the general exhibit to which they especially belong. Communications on the subject should be addressed to Miss Isabel L. Strong, 2,001 I Street, N.W. Washington, U.S.A.

Mlle. Chaptal, of Paris, arrives on the 12th, or thereabouts, and we are all looking forward to the pleasure of returning some of her many kindnesses. She will, we hope, make her head-quarters at the Nurses' Settlement in New York.

#### THE WOMAN'S CAUSE.

You in England must all be flushed with the noble enthusiasm of your woman's cause advancing to triumph. What a sad contrast and grotesque anti-climax it is, to have to tell you that our National Society, the Associated Alumnae, voted in the negative on a resolution to endorse equal suffrage, which was put to them in San Francisco by the President of the State Suffrage Society. I am so ashamed of it I can hardly think of it, and, so far, it is perfectly inexplicable to me, for, though with most nurses suffrage is quite out of their world, yet one expects a natural instinct to choose the right thing when it is presented, if one is dealing with intelligent people. More light! More light! We need more education. I hope we shall learn lots next summer in England.

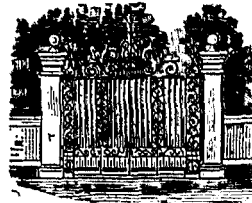
L. L. DOOK.

### State Aid for Indigent Mothers.

The humanitarian work of the French Republic has just been exemplified in a way that would have gladdened the heart of Jean Jacques Rousseau, who appealed to French mothers to nurse their own children instead of entrusting them to strangers. The Minister of Public Works, M. Barthou, assisted by the Director of the *Assistance Publique*, M. Mesureur, inaugurated recently at Versailles a pavilion in which abandoned mothers are to be offered, with their babies, a year's gratuitous hospitality, and at the same time will be given a certain amount of work enabling them to put by a little money. Only 100 children can at present be taken in, and in Paris alone, out of 60,000 births a year, 22,000 infants are put out to nurse, more than 17,000 of whom are sent beyond the jurisdiction of the Department of the Seine. There is a school of housekeeping attached to this institution.

## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



The Conference of the National Union of Women Workers, to which so many nurses' societies are affiliated—and which is so good for the members, as it brings them into touch with women working in

so many directions for social betterment—is to meet from October 12th to 15th at Aberdeen, and promises to be a thoroughly interesting gathering. Citizenship is the keynote of the Conference, and health plays a very important part in the programme. The medical inspection of school children, the work of health societies, how women may help in the practice of citizenship, (d) by serving on medical boards and charities, and the work of the International Council of Women, are all questions of interest to nurses. The conference is to be held in the Music Hall Buildings. There will be a reception by the Lord Provost and the Town Council of Aberdeen in the Art Gallery, and a reception by the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen in the Mitchell Hall, Marischal College. Arrangements are being made with the railway companies whereby it is hoped that return tickets at the price of a fare and a quarter will be made available from Saturday, 10th October, to Monday, 19th October, to those holding Conference tickets.

Another Votes for Women demonstration is to be held by the Women's Social and Political Union at the Earl's Court Exhibition on Saturday, the 25th inst. The management of the Exhibition have agreed to the erection of six platforms in the grounds, and from these Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Annie Kenney, Mrs. Martel, Miss Mary Gawthorpe, and others will speak on Votes for Women both in the afternoon and evening.

The result of the poll of the Fellows and Members regarding the admission of women to examination for the Diplomas of Membership and Fellowship, was announced at the quarterly meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons last week. It is almost incredible that the majority should have voted against justice to women, but so it was, and here are the astounding figures: A majority of 415 against the admission of women to the Membership, and a majority of 1,182 against their admission to the Fellowship. The votes of the Fellows taken separately showed a majority of 288 in favour of admitting women to the Membership and a majority of 34 in favour of admitting them to the Fellowship. The votes of the Members taken separately showed a majority of 703 against admitting women to the Membership and a majority of 1,216 against admitting them to the Fellowship; 1,043 Fellows voted out of 1,373 available, and 8,543 Members voted out of about 13,800 available.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)