

There were, however, cases where they were not able to respect the men whom they saw deriving benefit from a quack-nursing traffic.

She did not know whether there were other countries where medical men conducted a commerce in nursing to the advantage of their own pockets, but she thought that unless medical men in Germany and America did not before long eradicate this evil, and place something on their code of ethics which would make it known to the medical profession at large that the highest ideals of their profession did not uphold them in making money out of spurious nursing trading, then we should have to make an appeal to them, and advise them that this new ethical provision was very badly needed.

MISS MAXWELL said Miss Dock had not mentioned the correspondence schools in America, which were carried on by the medical profession. Nurses were being educated through courses and lectures by post, for which the doctors charged large fees. For instance, a fee of 50 guineas was charged for a course of obstetrical training, and those taking it never saw an obstetrical case. That was another unethical thing. In regard to the training of the medical student, some hospitals gave instruction in nursing to the medical men as a complement to their education in the College. They were taught how to prepare an operating room, to cook certain things, how to make certain preparations for surgical and medical appliances, and how to take care of instruments. So many instruments were ruined by medical men who did not receive such instruction that it was felt something of the kind was necessary.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SESSION said she was glad Miss Maxwell had brought out the point of the instruction of medical students. In New York they had been very much indebted to her for a great improvement in this direction. She had organised demonstrations in practical work, and her efforts had been very far-reaching.

A CANADIAN MEMBER OF THE CONGRESS said the medical men of the Universities there had requested that the students should be taught all the things which had been mentioned that afternoon, and regular demonstrations took place each Session at which the young men were taught the elements of practical nursing.

MISS EDLA WORTABET spoke of the different treatment which she had experienced from medical men, both in hospital and in district work. Some were courteous; she thought they took their tone from the matron. Others spoke to her with their hats on. She thought the nursing profession should be dignified and not servile, and that there should be courtesy on both sides.

MISS ISLA STEWART said that she was trained at St. Thomas's Hospital, and had been matron of a small-pox camp, a fever hospital, and of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, her experience as a matron amounting to nearly 25 years, and she had never met with discourtesy in the whole course of her official relations with medical men.

SISTER KARLL said she was very much impressed by an article which appeared in *Nosokomos* some

years ago, in which Dr. Bilsma, a Dutch medical man, advocated classes for medical students at which a matron should be the teacher. It was the first time she had ever heard such a suggestion from a medical man. He said that doctors often worked in distant countries where they could get no nursing assistance, and therefore all medical men should be taught the elements of nursing. In Germany this was not done, though one of the largest institutions for teaching professional women had instituted a course to teach medical practitioners invalid cookery, and next winter a course was to be started for nurses. The doctor who desired its establishment said that he could have saved the lives of many of his patients if only the nurses in charge of them had been acquainted with practical dietetics.

Sister Karll endorsed Mrs. Bedford Fenwick's remarks about the necessity for organisation. Recently a case occurred in which a nurse in one of the largest hospitals in Berlin was badly treated by a young doctor in the ward, in connection with some work which she really had not been ordered to do. The Director of the hospital supported the nurse, and the doctor was dismissed, and one of his friends resigned also. But doctors in Germany were so well organised that the nurse had to go in the end, because it transpired that if the doctors left the hospital their union would have prevented other medical men from applying for the posts. One hundred and twenty nurses of that hospital, who did not belong to the German Nurses' Association, applied to it to take up their cause. In self-protection it was absolutely necessary that nurses should organise.

MISS CHRISTINA FORREST said that during many years spent in three hospitals as nurse and matron, and as superintendent of a large private nursing home, where she had been brought in contact with hundreds of doctors, she could only remember the courtesy and kindness with which she had been treated by them, nor did she believe that 1 per cent. of her large staff of nurses would complain of discourtesy. They constantly reported how good the doctors were in supporting them through difficult times. Personally, if she were in the smallest trouble she went to a doctor to help her out of it.

MRS KILDARE TREACY spoke of the invariable courtesy she had received from distinguished Irish doctors as the Superintendent of a very large private nursing institution in Dublin.

THE HON. ALBENIA BRODRICK emphasised the fact that the professions of medicine and nursing were distinct, and this should be clearly borne in mind by nurses, as it would keep them from interfering in things about which they had no concern. She always found that the more enlightened the doctor the more he realised that the professions were distinct. Nurses did not pretend to diagnose or to take the doctor's place. If they did they would be quacks. But it also seemed to her that the nursing profession was not a humbler or a simpler one than the doctor's—it was a different one. She respected the medical profession. Medicine and nursing were a co-operation in which medicine was the senior

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