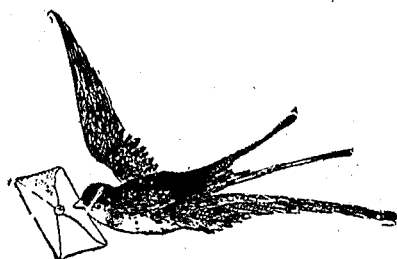


Our Foreign Letter.

NURSING IN CANADA.



The Residence attached to the Hospital for Sick Children at Toronto, which the nurses owe to the generosity of Mr. Ross

Robertson, is one of the finest and most complete Homes for nurses in the world, and Miss Louise Brent, the Lady Superintendent, and President of the Association of Superintendents of Training Schools in Canada, recently welcomed a conference of graduate nurses there. Many most interesting matters were discussed, amongst them the value of school nursing, by Miss Linda Rogers, the Supervising Nurse of the Board of Education for the Province of Ontario, who spoke enthusiastically respecting the prospects of preventive nursing.

Mrs. Clutterbuck spoke of the work of the Heather Club, organised to care for consumptives under fourteen years of age. Their work had been confined to a verandah at the Island—an exquisite breezy spot on the lake—but through the kindness of Mr. Ross Robertson, a pavilion will be available for the future.

Miss Janet Neilson, the city's nurse for tuberculosis, spoke of the great difficulties met with in her work, mainly arising from ignorance, poverty, and improper sanitation. Some of the people had a belief that once the disease was contracted it was fatal. The campaign in the city was not adequate by any means to the need.

Mrs. Mill Pellatt warmly advocated State Registration of Nurses, and out of this question Mrs. C. J. Currie spoke of the menace of those who entered the profession of nursing, in a commercial spirit, and to judge by the following resolution the lack of legal status resulting in high professional ideals amongst trained nurses as a whole, has had the same depressing influence on nurses in Canada as it has at home. This resolution was supported by Miss Bell Crosby, the President of the Association:—"That in view of the marked decline of interest in nursing as a profession by the graduates of more recent years, this association feel that this reflects and foretells a lower professional standard, which must inevitably reach not only to the disadvantage of the training schools as such but to the standing of the profession at large, and recommends that steps be taken by the Superintendents of training schools to more thoroughly inculcate in undergraduates the ethics of the profession and the importance to the undergraduate herself of taking an active interest in association work."

Ethics of nursing were discussed at length.

A CANADIAN BRANCH OF THE ARMY NURSING RESERVE.

A Canadian branch of the Army Nursing Reserve has been formed at Toronto.

An enthusiastic meeting to discuss it was also held at the Nurses' Residence. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor presided, and said they had met to evolve from the various nurses' organisations a still further organisation that would be available for service in time of war, whose members would be bound to turn out as skilled nurses to work in the field, who would undertake the same obligation for military duty that militiamen take.

Colonel Jones read a description of conditions on the Potomac during the Civil War. "That," said he, "brings us to the actual condition of things after a great battle. That might happen in this country at any time. Have we realised that there is need in Canada for an organisation to help the militia? We have not. We are exactly in the position that the South was fifty years ago."

First alluding to the Crimean war, and to the work of Florence Nightingale, Colonel Jones explained that the South African war had shown the need of certain reforms. One result was the formation of the Army Nursing Reserve. Nurses, he said, would for the first time attend the Niagara camp.

On motion of Miss Snively, seconded by Miss Brent, the meeting unanimously resolved "that this meeting of representatives of combined associations of trained nurses do hereby resolve that there be formed and organised a Canadian branch of the Army Nursing Reserve."

A provisional committee was appointed, and a resolution adopted inviting his Excellency the Governor General to be the patron of the Association. It will soon be realised that the institution of this Reserve is one of the most important movements in Canada.

MISS SNIVELY'S LAST REPORT.

After a quarter of a century's invaluable work for the sick in our great Dominion, Miss Snively, the Lady Superintendent of the General Hospital, Toronto, presented her last Report of the Nursing School she has supervised with such conspicuous success for so many years at the graduation exercises on May 26th. The report was satisfactory in every particular, and the granting of certificates to this year's class brings the total number up to 560.

Possibly the most interesting item in the report referred to Canada's corps of Army Nurses. The six nurses selected to go to Niagara Camp go as lieutenants, commanded by Miss Hatch, who is at present taking a military nurse's course in the Royal Military College at Kingston. It is the first time in the history of Canadian soldiery and nursing that a nurse has gone to a training camp to do hospital work, and the six selected are privileged indeed.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES.

Many scholarships and prizes were awarded at this charming ceremony, and the thirty-eight graduates deeply appreciated the honour that the signature of their revered Lady Superintendent, "Mary A. Snively" was inscribed on their certificates—the last she would sign. Thus joy and sorrow are for ever with us in this human life—but always "joy cometh in the morning."

MAPLE LEAF.

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