

President as long as possible. A slight alteration was made in the working arrangements, which is hoped will minimise the office work somewhat. A short résumé of the progress of State Registration was given by Miss Breay, who spoke of the proposed Reunion to be held in London in February.

Hearty votes of thanks were passed to the Hon. Officers for their work during the past year, and the meeting resolved itself into a Social Gathering.

M. BURR,
Hon. Secretary.

Royal Recognition for Nurses.

On Wednesday, the 26th ult., the King and Queen received at Marlborough House Miss Clara Nelson Smith, Matron of the Nursing Home, 15, Welbeck Street, W., in which the late Prince Francis of Teck was operated upon, and thanked her for all she had done. His Majesty bestowed upon her the Royal Victorian medal. The Queen has presented brooches to all the nurses who were in attendance on her brother at the home. The brooches are of dark blue or green enamel, surmounted by a Royal Crown inscribed with the initials "G. and M."

Conference on Feeding of Nurses.

We understand that the Conference on the Feeding of Nurses, to be held at Caxton Hall on Saturday, November 5th, at 2.30 p.m., has aroused great enthusiasm, and that a large and representative gathering is assured. Miss Rosalind Paget will preside. Matrons desiring to be enrolled as members of the Conference, and individual nurses and others interested, wishful to obtain visitors' tickets, should make early application to the Secretary, National Food Reform Association, 178, St. Stephen's House, Westminster, since the accommodation is necessarily limited.

The Food and Cookery Exhibition.

The 21st Universal Food and Cookery Exhibition was opened at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, S.W., on Tuesday, Nov. 1st, and will remain open until Saturday, November 5th. The invalid trays shown by trained nurses are not to be on view until Thursday and Friday, too late to be described in this issue. A number of dainty trays were exhibited on Tuesday and Wednesday, in Class 33, and some nurses competed in this general class, and also in Class 33a, restricted to meatless dishes.

Work in a Home and Foreign Hospital Contrasted.

The first of a series of five lectures on "A Nurse's Equipment for Service at Home and Abroad," organised under the auspices of the Nurses' Missionary League, was delivered on Tuesday morning last at University Hall, Gordon Square, by Miss C. F. Tippet, who is now working at the Wilson Memorial Hospital, at Pingyangfu, Shansi, N. China. The hospital is a memorial of Dr. William Millar Wilson, his wife Christine, and their infant son, who suffered martyrdom at Taiyuanfu in the Boxer rising in 1900.

Miss Tippet spoke as follows:—

I have been asked to speak to you this morning on the contrasts in the work of a home and foreign hospital, and at Pingyangfu, in Northern China, where I work, the contrast is very great. At some of the hospitals on the coast the conditions approximate more nearly to those at home, but not in the interior. First there is *environment*. We are foreigners in a foreign country, a huge, tremendous country it must be remembered, and one of our first difficulties is that of transport. Then there is the dust; we have terrible dust storms, and sometimes when everything in the theatre is ready for an operation a dust storm comes on, and there can be no operation because every crevice of theatre, and our own mouths, ears, and noses are filled with it. Again, there are the Chinese manners and customs to be considered; it is not wise or right to ride roughshod over these. To insist upon the observance of our own customs in unimportant matters is to damage and interfere with the work.

In regard to the climate it is a very fine one for those whose heads can stand it, but the high altitude causes sleeplessness with some people.

The language is one of our difficulties, but it is exceedingly interesting, and I have never known anyone sent back on this account. God's commands are His enablings, and if He calls you to work in China He will help you to speak to the people in their own tongue.

As to the people, they are very ignorant and very dirty, but those are conditions not unknown at home, and you must remember that water is very scarce; in the hospital we have to buy every drop of water, which is brought to us in a cart, and when I am doing district work it is a real consideration whether I shall wash my face once or twice a day, especially when there is a drought.

The people, then, are ignorant, dirty, superstitious, fearful, they hear strange tales of us, of our scooping out eyes, and taking out hearts,

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