

hoped to collect sufficient funds to enable a selected student to take a year's course of preparation for Matrons' posts at Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York, until such time as we have a similar course in this country. She read a letter from Miss M. A. Nutting, R.N., Professor of Institutional Administration at Teachers' College, giving details of the course, and extending a cordial welcome to the holder of the Isla Stewart Scholarship. As it was desirable that the scheme should be started forthwith, the President asked whether the League would undertake the honour of sending one of its members in September next as the first student. In order to do this it would be necessary to raise £160.

Sister Paget (Miss Shrives) said that she thought the general scheme would be after Miss Stewart's own heart. It would be impossible to think of anything better.

It was proposed from the chair that Mrs. Andrews should confer with Miss Whitley as to the best means of promoting it, which was carried unanimously.

Miss Musson then proposed that the League undertake to raise the sum of £160, in order that it may send out the first student in September, as speedily as possible. This was seconded by Sister Matthew (Miss Bramwell) and carried unanimously.

Miss Maud Banfield, a member of the League and one of the Superintendents who helped to found the course at Teachers' College, gave an interesting account of its work.

Miss Bryant, Miss Nevile, Miss Bird, and Miss M. Sleigh were elected members of the Executive Committee in place of the retiring members.

On the proposition of the President, it was decided that no lectures should be held during the winter session, and the money which would have been spent on them saved for the Isla Stewart Memorial.

Authority was given to the Executive Committee to make such arrangements as might be necessary for the next meeting.

Tea was afterwards served in the Great Hall with the daintiness which always characterises these functions.

## A Tribute to Miss Isla Stewart.

FROM HER AMERICAN COLLEAGUES.

MY DEAR MADAM,—At the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses, recently held in New York, the following resolutions were acted upon, and the Secretary was instructed to send a copy of the same to you as President of the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland.

"Whereas: In the death of Miss Isla Stewart the nursing profession has lost one of its most courageous, enlightened, and trustworthy leaders, whose whole great weight of character, personality, and distinguished position has been steadily thrown on the side of the highest good of the entire body of nurses, without regard to self, during her whole nursing career as Matron of the Premier Royal Hospital of England.

"We, her American colleagues, many of whom have been privileged to know her personally and to feel the stimulus of her rich and buoyant nature, express our deep sense of loss in her passing, and our heartfelt sympathy with her British co-workers."

Yours most truly,

M. H. McMILLAN, *Secretary.*

The American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses.

To Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

## The Teaching of Nursing by Nurses.

As we reported last week, the St. John Ambulance Association has withdrawn from the Voluntary Aid Scheme for aid to the sick and wounded in the event of invasion. A letter from Sir Richard Temple to the *Morning Post* makes it apparent that one reason is that the War Office has now altered the Scheme to make the St. John Ambulance Association only one of a number of bodies who may give the preliminary training, instead of the only one. Another cause of offence, in Sir Richard Temple's view, is that "it insisted that nurses should teach, and nurses should examine and grant certificates in nursing to candidates for Voluntary Aid Detachments, whereas the St. John Ambulance Association makes it obligatory that pupils in any kind of medical subject . . . shall be taught by one medical practitioner, and examined and certified by another unconnected with the class."

In point of fact the St. John Ambulance Association cannot divest itself of the belief that a nurse is an inferior kind of medical practitioner, cannot realise that medicine and nursing are distinct branches of the healing art, and that the duties of each are best taught by those who have themselves learnt how to perform them. We most heartily congratulate the War Office, and its liberal-minded Secretary of State, on recognising this fact. The teaching of nursing by nurses in connection with the Voluntary Aid Scheme has been widely discussed and strongly advocated in the columns of this journal, and it is with great pleasure we chronicle a decision which must greatly add to the efficiency of the new organisation.

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