

The next point which is important to mention is that the hospitals register as training schools. There the State steps in. The hospital knows that unless it registers it will not get the type of nurse it wants. Then the State demands inspection of hospitals, and the Inspector in New York State is Miss A. W. Goodrich, who gave up the post of Superintendent of Nurses at Bellevue and the Allied Hospitals, a leading position in the nursing world there, in order to undertake the work of Inspector at considerable financial loss.

From the registered hospitals the nurses emerge who enter for the State examination of nurses, and eventually become registered nurses.

Now we come to the course at Columbia University. The American nurse will do anything to get there. Those who do private nursing often save enough money to take the course at Columbia University. I never saw anything like the devotion of the nurses to their profession. In this connection I may say that the Isabel Hampton Robb memorial, raised by the nurses, is to be not one but many scholarships.

What did I learn at Columbia University? Well, I know how to build a hospital. I do not mean that I could lay all the bricks, but I know how it should be constructed, and the kind of bricks of which it should be built. I may mention that in a lecture we had on badly constructed hospitals the first one instanced was St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. It was, I think, mentioned partly for my benefit, and later I was able to point to an American hospital, of recent date, in which the construction is also faulty.

Then we were taught methods of hospital administration, and that the secret of successful administration is the management of men (who, of course, comprise humanity).

A great deal of time was given to psychology, one of the most interesting subjects taught, *i.e.*, the study of human nature. Then there were lectures on dietetics, on the management of laundries, and we were taught how to teach such subjects as anatomy and physiology, and also to be ready to meet the problems with which we are confronted in our work.

I am most grateful to you for sending me to take this Teachers' College course, with the systematic, scientific training it offers to nurses. The modern nurse is needed everywhere, and she must be educated to meet the demands made upon her.

Miss Cutler proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Rundle for her interesting address, and the President said that we must regard her as a pioneer for future use. The Isla Stewart Scholar had learnt while in America the great affection and veneration in which Miss Stewart was held, by the desire shown to pay honour to the Scholar sent in her name, and by the award to her of an American scholarship.

#### THE SOCIAL GATHERING.

At four o'clock the members and their guests assembled in the Great Hall for the Social Gathering, invitations having been sent to all the other London Leagues of Nurses.

From the far end of the Hall Henry VIII. beamed down, the space at the opposite end being now filled by a fine full length portrait of his successor, King Edward VII. In honour of the Coronation the Band opened the programme with the National Anthem as soon as the members were assembled, and the scheme of colour for the decoration of the buffet was charmingly carried out in red, white, and blue.

An interesting guest was Sister Margarete Ziehe, a member of the German Nurses' Association, sent over by it to take part in the Women's Suffrage Procession on June 17th.

As usual there were many meetings between old friends, who welcome these opportunities of renewing friendships which in their busy lives they have little time to cultivate. One was struck as usual with the fact that nurses when off duty and in community are always so gay and happy. No doubt the result of lives spent in useful work for others. M. B.

#### The Registered Nurses' Society.

The Coronation party at the offices of the Registered Nurses' Society, 431, Oxford Street, London, W., on Thursday in last week, when the King and Queen drove up Oxford Street on their return from the City, was a great success. A number of the nurses on the staff with their friends were present, and the advantages of their central offices were never more apparent. Right away to Oxford Circus in one direction, and a considerable part of the way to Marble Arch in the other the route was to be seen, with its "thin red line" on either side.

At length, preceded by a fine troop of Colonials, Court officials and ladies-in-waiting, and escorted by a Sovereign's escort, their Majesties came, the King and Queen with the Prince of Wales and Princess Mary being in the beautiful new State carriage. Their Majesties both wore the ribbon of the Garter, and the King was in the uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet. The Queen carried a lovely bouquet of roses and carnations presented to her by the Lady Mayoress.

After the procession had passed, by the invitation of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Hon. Superintendent, a very merry party assembled in the Board Room for tea. As usual, Sister Cartwright decorated the offices with beautiful flowers, and the cakes and tea—as well as the strawberries, fresh gathered in the country that morning, a gift of Mrs. Breay—were much appreciated.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)