

required it was for the practice of allowing a nurse to administer the anæsthetic, a custom which is due entirely to the desire to avoid paying a fee to a qualified anæsthetist. This practice is far too common in Ireland.

The Conference of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association at Llandudno passed a resolution declaring that local authorities should be empowered to demand a minimum floor space for all bedrooms in newly erected dwellings.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

In connection with the Leeds Branch of the National Union of Trained Nurses a meeting was held at the Leeds General Infirmary on September 26th, when Dr. Vining delivered a most interesting lecture on "Nervous Diseases," dealing more particularly with neurasthenia and hysteria and the required treatments. At the close of the lecture, which was greatly appreciated by a large gathering of nurses, the members of the Union, on the invitation of the Lady Superintendent, adjourned to the Nurses' Home for a short social meeting.

On Friday, September 26th, a fair gathering of members and associates of the Weston-super-Mare Branch met at Trewartha, by the kind invitation of Mrs. and Miss Pethick. Miss Oates, one of the members, gave a very interesting account of her experiences in Bulgaria during the recent war. Miss Oates went out last December, and remained for three months, during which time she was nursing at the front, often under great difficulties. She found the Bulgarians a most courteous people, and was often touched by the great simplicity of the peasants she nursed. Most of the poor fellows brought in had not had their clothes off for four months, and after their wounds had been dressed she and her fellow-nurses determined to wash their patients. The news was telephoned to the front, and the officer in command came in a hurry, thinking the English nurses were treating their patients to what we know as Turkish baths, those being the only form of bath known in Bulgaria. Needless to say, when the officer in command saw what was really happening he was delighted.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Miss Oates for her address, and after tea a stroll in the garden was much enjoyed. The rest of the afternoon, which passed much too quickly, was spent in an amusing competition.

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

DR. GRAY'S HOSPITAL, ELGIN.

Oh! 'tis a land o' grandeur still—romance yet lingers there;

There Spey and Findhorn sweep along, and gentle Lossie fair.

Auld Moray land, auld Moray land, oh Moray land for me!

Oh weel I lo'e thee, Moray land, my native north countree.

From the hearts of how many exiles, far, far from their ancient Province of Moray, has this longing cry gone forth—who can tell? Yet we know that after years of toil overseas, in lands of scorching sun, or blinding snow, where youth was all spent in making Empire, many of these faithful ones came home to "auld Moray land," to dwell in peace there, and add to its worth and wealth.

Of such we imagine was one Alexander Gray, a native of Elgin, and surgeon in the East India Company's service, who found good fortune, died rich in 1807, and left £20,000 to build and endow a Hospital, which was erected in 1819, called after its founder, and remains a monument to his generosity unto this day. Wise men chose a commanding site for Dr. Gray's Hospital, just without the city of Elgin, and grace be, made it first a thing of beauty, before rightly understanding its uses. That understanding was to come all in good time.

Since the Hospital was opened, close on a century ago, it has never lacked support: donations and legacies have come its way; and, as is so often the case with worthy institutions, much of its wonderful financial prosperity may be traced to the personal interest of one man. Who will deny that to the untiring personal service of Mr. Hugh Stewart, its devoted Secretary and Treasurer, much of the success of Dr. Gray's Hospital is due? He has evidently the power of inspiring confidence in those who can afford to give. In 1905 the late Mr. James Shepherd, of Rossend Castle, Burntisland, gave him £10,000, to be handed to the trustees, to be applied as they thought fit. In recent years he has raised £9,000, and is now struggling to make it £10,000; £5,000 of which was given by Lord Mount Stephen, and right good use has been made of the money. In 1907 several thousands were spent in adding to and altering the hospital, and bringing it thoroughly up to date. This included new administrative blocks, including delightful quarters for nurses and servants, sanitary towers or wings, a new completely fitted

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