

They should be in or near a wood on a high sandy or gravel soil, with a southern aspect, and protected from the north and east by trees. There should be ample bathing accommodation.

The Charlottenburg system of separate sheds should be followed, as they get air, light and sunshine on all sides, which is impossible in a large building, where inevitably some rooms are unsuitable for invalids.

I cannot too much emphasise the moral and physical improvement which takes place in the children under the Open Air System.

They come to us nervous, irritable, suspicious, unreliable, bad-mannered, and so listless that they grudge the least exertion, and cannot be induced to sing even *one* verse of a song. After a time they become smiling and cheerful, courteous and kind to one another, orderly, clean, attentive, reliable and trusting, and seem to enjoy singing, with vigour, songs with endless verses. They get a colour, their hair becomes glossy, they increase in size and in weight, their backs straighten, they become more alert and vivacious, and in some cases they are able to carry the gospel of cleanliness and open windows into their own homes.

### STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

We shall be pleased to receive the names of those who are able to pay their own expenses who are willing to attend meetings in the country to speak to nurses on State Registration. Now that both the Houses of Lords and of Commons have shown by vote their approval of the principle of registration, it is realised by sensible people that legislation cannot be long delayed, and that the fatuous and vexatious opposition is merely kept up by the social influence of a few persons, and the quack nursing press.

We are asked by a well-known Matron to warn her colleagues against an ambiguous letter which is being circulated by Lord Knutsford, from the London Hospital, as a whip for his anti-registration protest. He writes:—  
“Have you been able to sign and get signatures to the Protest against the Registration Bill? We have received 160 letters from Matrons against the Bill, and only 38 in favour so far.”

This would make it appear that Lord Knutsford is inviting signatures for as well as against the Bill, which is not the case. Naturally registrationists did not think it necessary to reply to his previous letter.

### THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES.

#### THE CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION AT BIRMINGHAM.

The opening of the Nursing Exhibition at the new Central Hall, Corporation Street, Birmingham, on Tuesday, June 9th, was a very memorable function, both because this is the first time that Birmingham has ever had a Nursing Exhibition, and for the sympathetic understanding of the work and aspirations of nurses by the Lady Mayoress, Mrs. Ernest Martineau, and the completeness and beauty of the Nurses' Exhibits.

The Lady Mayoress was received by the President of the Conference, Miss E. M. Musson, with Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the National Council of Trained Nurses, in the Vestry Room, and some of the delegates of the various Leagues and societies affiliated to the National Council were introduced. A procession was then formed headed by nurses carrying the League Banners, including the banners of the Matrons' Council bearing its badge embroidered in gold and blue upon a white ground, the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses with its well-known shield, carried out in black and white, the General Hospital, Birmingham, Nurses' League with its red cross daintily embroidered on a charming buff coloured background, embroidered in blue and red, and the banner of the Royal South Hants Nurses' League with the characteristic roses of the city arms.

It was an impressive scene upon which those on the platform looked on entering the hall. The body of this large and handsome building was filled with the stands occupied by trade exhibits by well-known firms effectively arranged, and on the semi-circular tier behind the platform was to be seen first the group of League banners, and, on rising tiers, the model of a regulation Swiss hospital train and hospital tent, lent by the National Union of Trained Nurses, and the exhibit of the General Hospital, Birmingham, Nurses' League, an exhibit which, in the completeness of its survey and perfection of detail, has never before been attempted.

The proceedings began with the presentation of a lovely bouquet of pink carnations and asparagus fern to the Lady Mayoress by Miss K. D. Lloyd, Hon. Secretary of the General Hospital Nurses' League on its behalf, and the President of the League and of the Conference then invited the Lady Mayoress to open the Exhibition in the following words.

#### THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

MY LADY MAYORESS,

On behalf of the General Hospital Birmingham Nurses' League, I have the honour to invite you to open this Exhibition. This is the first Conference and Exhibition in Birmingham which has been organised entirely by Nurses. We have endeavoured to illustrate in a small way,

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