

to a hospital he knew these were very varied—they should realize its sacredness.

"Blessed be the man that provideth for the sick and needy, the Lord shall deliver him in the time of trouble." There was no doubt that the active life of a nurse lessened her personal trials. Nevertheless she should make time for consideration, for deepening thought, and for thinking of her responsible work. Such moments did occur for the night nurse.

The daily routine was trying. It was trying to have to see the painful death of a patient whose recovery one longed for. Nevertheless the nurse did a great deal to ease the difficult passage of the sick person. It was a blessed thing to be always serving. "Blessed be your work," said the Bishop, "and God bless you in it."

THE DINNER.

No Nurses' Conference is complete without a dinner, and that presided over by Miss Musson, at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on the evening of Thursday, June 11th, was in every way successful and delightful. Over a hundred people were present; the dinner was excellent, the beautiful irises and other flowers employed in the table decorations most effective, and the company genial and pleasant.

THE TOASTS.

Mr. Howard Collins, House Governor of the General Hospital, acted as toastmaster in the kindest way. The toast of the King, proposed from the chair, having been duly honoured, Sir Victor Horsley proposed the first toast of the evening, "The National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland."

Sir Victor said that when Miss Musson invited him to propose the toast he felt like the Irishman, who, when asked, in an accident, "Are ye kilt?" replied, "I'm not kilt but I'm spachless." The work of the National Council of Nurses was fairly well known, but, it was so wide reaching, and so intensely important that it was impossible to do justice to it in a few minutes. He then dealt ably with the question of State Registration of Trained Nurses, and said that the opposition had shrunk to the figure of one man, and a certain amount of opposition from "the smart set." The future of this great question lay in the education of the people, who were beginning to realise that health and happiness could be attained by the democracy. He had much pleasure in proposing prosperity and success to the National Council of Trained Nurses, coupled with the name of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, as President, conveyed in the name of the National Council her heartfelt thanks to Sir Victor Horsley, and briefly outlined its many activities.

Miss Buckingham, President of the Queen's Hospital Nurses' League, proposed in cordial terms the toast of "The Medical Profession," concluding by saying that we found the medical profession indispensable when we were born, we earnestly hoped to have them to smooth our last

path, and finally could not live without them. To this toast Professor Barling, Vice-Chancellor of the University, responded in felicitous terms. The last toast was "The President of the Conference," proposed by Miss M. Huxley, late President of the Irish Nurses' Association, who congratulated Miss Musson on the organization of the most successful Conference and Exhibition, from an intimate knowledge, after a similar experience in Dublin last year, of what was involved in the way of work, not to mention worry. She called for three cheers for Miss Musson, which were heartily given, and Miss Musson in responding, associated with herself her many able helpers, specially mentioning the House Governor of the hospital.

A picture of a section of the League Exhibit which won the first prize, given by the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, appears on page 556.

MORE ABOUT THE EXHIBITION.

HIGHLY COMMENDED.

Last week we published a list of prizes gained. This week we give those exhibits, which, while not entering for any special competition, were nevertheless of a high order of merit and were highly commended.

1. THE EXHIBIT OF ORTHOPÆDIC WORK SENT BY THE NURSES OF THE ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM, was most instructive and attractive, the plaster jackets and splints applied to the dolls by the nurses being models of good workmanship. Amongst these were a plaster cast for morbus coxæ, a Heron-Watson splint after excision of knee, a box splint for genu valgum, a plaster splint for a case of spinal caries after Albée's operation. This consists in making a groove in the spine and implanting in it a splint of a portion of bone taken from the radius. The splint for the support of such a case is a plaster cast fitting over the head, shaped to the shoulders, and extending down the back and round the sides so that the patient lies in a perfectly firm support. No less perfect than the scientific is the nursing side of this exhibit; dainty knitted woollen vests, and woollen stockings, cosy white flannel dresses with scarlet collar and cuffs, such as are worn in the hospital, a beautiful little green silk quilt over a knitted apron for the Albée patient, strapped on to a padded board, with photographs of orthopædic patients, made a section which deservedly received much admiration.

2. THE ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, LONDON, DIGESTIVE TRACT EXHIBIT.—This is another exhibit extremely valuable from the nursing standpoint, showing the preciseness and importance of nurses' work in this connection. It has already been described in detail in this JOURNAL.

3. THE QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM, EXHIBIT.—The Queen's Hospital exhibit was a model of the operating theatre in daily (and nightly) use at that hospital, made 2 inches to the foot.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)