

During the discussion Councillor A. Gould said he was a member of the local Asylum Committee, but he would want to be satisfied as to the facts before he raised a protest. There were cases in which female nurses would be preferable to male attendants in asylums, and yet, on the other hand, there were grounds, obvious to everyone, on which he supported the protest.

Mr. J. Jørgensen, the late President of the Norwegian Chamber of Commerce in London, feeling that many Norwegians who made their homes in this country would gladly welcome any scheme enabling them to show in some tangible manner their great sympathy and loyalty to Great Britain in her hour of distress, has just, we are informed, formed a small committee, consisting of Mr. Th. Fägelund, Mr. Jørgensen (who is acting as hon. treasurer), Mr. W. M. Johnsen, Mr. K. F. Knudsen, and Mr. E. Roll, to appeal for funds to supply the military hospitals here with a certain number of fully trained Norwegian nurses, thoroughly conversant with the English language. The scheme has met with such enthusiastic support that it will be possible to send to the various military hospitals as many English-speaking Norwegian nurses as can be found. The names of those already appointed to the Military Hospital, Richmond, will be found on page 216.

Miss L. L. Dock acquaints us that one result of the adoption of Woman Suffrage in the State of Illinois is that for the first time in the history of Illinois women employées of the State will from September 1st receive the same pay as men for doing the same class of work.

"There is no reason," says President Kern, "why a nurse in these State institutions should not receive as high wages as the men attendants for the same class of work. It should have been recognized long ago. We believe that we are establishing the right standard this time, and that it will tend to increase efficiency in all the institutions.

"We are working out the promotional wage scale, which we believe to be another step in the right direction. Instead of leaving the question of wages to the superintendents, we believe this plan will work much better, as the employées will always have an incentive, for the longer they work, provided they are faithful and efficient, the higher will be their wages.

"What we are trying to do is to make the work attractive to both men and women employées in these great charitable institutions by treating the employées like human beings and giving them something to work for."

## OUR FOREIGN LETTER.

### LETTER VIII.—ECHOES OF THE SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE.

DEAR MADAM,—Before I took up my pen this morning, I sat with my head in my hands pondering:—

"It is a fundamental principle that for the stability of any body of workers, and for the establishment of just economic conditions, co-operation between its members is required. Further, if it is to be self-respecting, and respected, by others, it is necessary that it should be organized that it should demand a high standard of skill as the qualification for admission to its ranks, and should then take steps to protect its standard." I have been pondering over these words uttered by Miss Henrietta Hawkins when she presented her interesting Paper at the Conference on June 17th—because the Convention of the American Nurses' Association has been such a splendid actualization of the truth and value of these words. In *intention* and *volition*, we are just as progressive as they, but whereas barriers which formerly checked their aspirations have been broken down, making them free to advance, we are still fettered by the obstinacy, stupidity, and lack of imagination of those in power. However, we have more reason for being optimistic about the future of our profession than ever before perhaps. There is one thing that must be said of the American Nurses, because it is their due: Now that they *are* free to advance, they have made, and are making such splendid use of their liberty. It is a wholesome example for us when our hour of liberation strikes. I was struck with the fact that many of the Papers presented at the different sessions of the Convention, showed, either definitely or suggestively, how beneficial have been the results of State Registration. Simultaneously with our Convention, the American Hospital Association held theirs. I was not, however, able to attend the sessions; they were held at the Inside Inn which was a long way from the First Congregational Church. It is a very important body, established for many years, and doing excellent work, as its aims will show, namely: "to promote economy and efficiency in hospital management, to educate the public regarding hospital needs, to disseminate information regarding every phase of hospital work. It is composed of Hospital Trustees, superintendents, managers, medical health officers, physicians, surgeons, pathologists and superintendents of nurses, contributors and officers of associations founded to promote the interests of organized medical charities."

In a Paper presented by Miss Bessie Graham on "Loyalty and What we Owe to our Schools," she urged the duty of nurses in doing their individual part to upbuild and strengthen the Alumnae Associations; she claimed the essential duty of the nurse in recognizing her *social responsibility*, her duty to womanhood and to the race.

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