

## DUBLIN METROPOLITAN TECHNICAL SCHOOL FOR NURSES.

The classes of the above school started on Thursday, September 20th, at their head-quarters, 34, St. Stephen's Green. Nearly ninety pupils, who are in the first year of their training, attended the lecture.

This school started teaching in 1893, on the initiative of Miss Huxley, then Lady Superintendent of Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital. Lectures are given in anatomy, physiology, hygiene and invalid cooking. The first three subjects are taken by a qualified doctor, the last by a certificated cook. An examination is held at the end of each set of lectures and the candidates must obtain fifty per cent. of marks in each subject before they are granted a certificate. These certificates are then sent to the matrons of the hospitals which send pupils to the school, and are incorporated in the three years' hospital certificate.

Dr. Percy Kirkpatrick, F.R.C.P.I., Registrar to the Royal College of Physicians, has been the lecturer for several years; and through his kind offices, the school has been granted, by the courtesy of the Royal College of Physicians, the use of their beautiful hall for its examinations. This boon is greatly appreciated. These central classes are being more and more taken advantage of, and one can see how easy it would be to extend the work of this excellent school. Before the lecture began on Thursday, a pleasing little ceremony took place. Gold and silver medals were presented to those pupils who had obtained the highest number of marks in last year's course. Two had tied for first place, so gold medals were given to Miss Monahan and Miss O'Grady, both nurses belonging to the Richmond Hospital; the silver one going to Miss Cullen, Sir P. Dun's Hospital.

## A NEW ULSTER DIFFICULTY.

The anonymous "Ierne," with the help of the Burdett press, is busy flinging the apple of discord around in nursing circles in Ireland. In criticising the strongly evinced antagonism to Irish national feeling and organisation upon the part of the English faction, which, appointed in London, rules the College of Nursing's Irish Board, the *Poor-Law Officers' Journal* touches the spot. "As things are," it says, "the College seems to have created a new Ulster difficulty, and the cleavage is likely to remain" . . . "as revealed, the situation would appear to be one which is due to the "appearance on the horizon" of the College of Nursing; if the College had remained in the offing the Irish nurses would have got on very well with their own Association or Board. Exactly. There was no necessity whatever for the College to operate in Ireland and plagiarise the programme, and attempt to abstract the work so conscientiously begun by the

Irish Nurses' Association. The College has not added one new suggestion of any value to the well-designed professional programme of the Irish Nurses' Association. Why "steal its thunder"?

We are glad to learn that the Irish Nursing Board means to patiently continue its national work for Irish Nurses, and that it does not intend to be "suppressed" by anonymous attacks through the English "employers' press."

## HOSPITAL SURGEONS.

### POSITION OF NURSES AND HOSPITALS.

A meeting of county hospital surgeons, according to the *Irish Times*, was held in the Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin, on Wednesday, 19th inst.—Dr Knott, of Castlebar, occupying the chair—to consider many matters of interest in connection with the working of these useful county institutions, especially with reference to the different authorities now proposing to obtain legislative sanction to deal with the Nursing Question. After prolonged discussion, the following resolution, proposed by Dr. Thompson, Omagh, and seconded by Dr. Hall, Monaghan, was unanimously adopted:—

1. That, as the nursing profession is closely linked as a subordinate profession with that of medicine, it should be dealt with as regards qualification of nurses in much the same way as medical practitioners; in other words, that a *curriculum* should be laid down for nurses and approved of by the Local Government Board, by the different medical and surgical licensing bodies, and have statutory authority, and that all nurses, having completed their training and possessing the necessary qualifications, should appear at certain specified dates for examination at different centres, before examiners appointed for the purpose, and the candidate, having passed such examination, should then have the right to have her name placed on the register of nurses.

2. That we disapprove of any self-constituted bodies or boards being set up to deal with this question, and that Ireland should have power of registering its own nurses as it does its own doctors.

3. That the Local Government Board for Ireland should determine by inspection whether or not nurses' training schools and hospitals are sufficient for the purpose.

A long discussion took place as to the attempt made some time ago to lay down a specific rule that no hospital should be recognised as a suitable training school unless provided with certain officials and at least 140 beds. It was considered that an efficient nurse could be trained quite as well in a hospital of fifty or sixty beds as in one possessing 140, and that if any such qualification was insisted upon it would treat with great injustice many small hospitals which had proved their efficiency by turning out numbers of excellent nurses, many of whom were serving their country with great distinction in the present war in the

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