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EDITORIAL.

HIGHER EDUCATION OF NURSES.

A FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE COLLEGE OF NURSING FOR FRANCE.

Miss Grace Ellison, whose real genius is centred in her very descriptive pen, has written the live little leaflet to be used by Dr. Anna Hamilton, in her appeal in the United States for support for her ideal scheme for the Florence Nightingale College of Nursing in France, to be established at Bagatelle, near Bordeaux, on the beautiful property left for the purpose by Mdlle. Bosc. We do sincerely hope this appeal will meet with the encouragement and support it deserves in America, where big things materialise.

A COLLEGE OF NURSING FOR AUSTRALIA.

At the notable meeting of the International Council of Nurses, held in London in 1909—a delightful and instructive meeting—we had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Miss Isla Blomfield, our Australian delegate—a charming and intelligent woman. Miss Blomfield has kept up a keen interest in progressive nursing affairs, and now we welcome a Paper contributed by her to the *Australian Nurses' Journal*, in which she advocates the establishment of a College of Nursing—on the purely educational lines suggested by ourselves twenty years ago—a College of Nursing attached to a University dealing with Nursing Education—as the Medical Colleges deal with medical education, but in no way superseding the Disciplinary and Registration powers, which are centred in Australia in the professional Council of the Australian Trained Nurses' Association, and to be carried out by an independent Nursing Council when the Nurses' Registration Bill becomes law.

Miss Blomfield advocates that one year in the training of Nurses should be spent in

preliminary education of a practical nature at a College of Nursing before entering the wards for clinical training, and that the College should be subsidised by Government, as in the case of the Training College for Teachers, since the training of nurses is as important as the training of teachers—the nurses to pay a fee, as is done by nurses training in Maternity Schools.

Miss Blomfield concludes :—

“ During this war so many untrained women have been made use of to do the work of nurses, that it is especially necessary that the standard of the trained nurse should be raised. With this end in view, the educational standard should be higher and a Nursing College be established. What the University training has done to improve the status of the Masseuses a College of Nursing would do for the Nurse.”

We have often expressed these opinions over a period of twenty years, but we must keep distinctly before us that a College is an academic centre and should not be responsible for social economics and professional registration and discipline—beyond the regulations for its own Diploma.

NO PROFESSIONAL MONOPOLY.

Active members of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses—the first Society of Nurses to draft a Bill—are busy looking after the interests of the profession in the new Parliament. Let members pay their subscriptions early in the year, and so help to provide the sinews of victory.

In the past State Registrationists have only had to meet the stupid opposition of the London Hospital policy, supported by the Governors and Matrons of the large training schools. Now these obstructionists have adopted the policy of State Registration of nurses, as embodied in an opposition Bill, giving preference to members of the College of Nursing, Ltd. Our work is to stand firm for an independent Governing Body as provided in the Central Committee's Bill, and to convince the new Parliament that no one organization of nurses has any right to professional monopoly.

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