

INTERNATIONAL NEWS.

REGISTRATION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The *South African Nursing Record* reports in full the Annual Meeting of the South African Trained Nurses' Association, held at Cape Town, in May. It was a wonderfully illuminating meeting, occupying five days, and covered nearly all the questions of burning interest to nurses.

It is high time legislators in South Africa realised that Nursing, though ancillary to medicine, is a definite department of health science, and that trained nurses have a right to a definite status and a Governing Body of their own, apart from medical control.

Nearly thirty years ago the Medical Council of the Cape of Good Hope incorporated provision for a nurses' register in the Medical and Pharmacy Register, and they are clinging to this power, although nursing has made such enormous strides since 1891.

Amongst the interesting items brought up at the Conference, Dr. Tremble announced the result of their deputation to the Minister of the Interior (Sir Thomas Watt), as follows:—"No prospect of a Medical Bill during this Session, but a promise of its introduction next Session if the Minister were still in office. Refusal to introduce a Nurses' Registration Bill on ground that he wished one Bill to cover medical and all allied professions. Refusal to introduce a Midwives' Registration Bill on the same grounds. Promise to insert a clause in the Medical Bill providing for the representation of the Nursing Profession on the Medical Council."

All this is very out of date, and we hope our South African colleagues will study the Nurses Registration Act, England and Wales, draft one on its model, and bombard their legislators with up-to-date information. "Pep" is evidently what these gentlemen need:—to judge from the expression of nursing opinion at Cape Town. South African nurses appear to be well supplied with it.

AFTER REGISTRATION, V.A.D.'s.

The V.A.D. question cropped up, of course.

Miss Shepley pointed out that though V.A.D.'s were afforded special opportunities of completing their training in general hospitals, a great many of them who had not done so were in private practice throughout the country, where they were taking full fees. These practising V.A.D.'s were not among the best, most of whom had embraced the opportunity of complete training, but generally were the less satisfactory ones. They were injuring the reputation of the profession.

Mrs. Knight said the doctors were responsible for this state of things, since V.A.D.'s were, of course, working under them.

Dr. Tremble proposed that the General Secretary should write to the British Medical Association, asking them individually and collectively to discourage the employment of any but qualified nurses. This was unanimously agreed to.

A NOTABLE LIBEL ACTION.

The notable libel action which is arousing so much interest in the nursing world, brought by Miss E. Maude MacCallum, against the late Editor and the proprietors and publishers of the *Hospital* and the *Nursing Mirror*, is expected to come on for hearing in the High Courts of Justice, on Monday, July 12th, or Tuesday, July 13th.

NURSES HELP DOCTORS.

The concert at the Wigmore Hall on July 2nd, under the patronage of H.R.H. Princess Arthur of Connaught, organised by Miss M. Ellis Rowell in aid of the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund, not only added £150 to the coffers of this Fund, but was a most enjoyable occasion. Such well-known artistes as Miss Olive Sturgess, Miss Phillis Lett, and Mr. Lloyd Chandos delighted the audience with their singing, so that almost every song was encored. The pianoforte solos of Mr. Ernest Busby and the violin solos of Miss Elsa Stamford were both marvels of technique and musical skill, while Miss Gertrude Tomalin brought down the house with her monologues. We congratulate all concerned.

"JOUJOU."

THE PERFECT BRASSIER.

The importance of a Brassier (bust support) which permits of complete freedom of movement and yet gives support where necessary, will be readily appreciated. The "Joujou" Brassier, which is the product of years of study by a leading Paris fashion artist, and is patented in Great Britain, France, America and the Colonies, has lately appeared on the market, and has only to be seen for its merits to be realised. It is approved by members of the medical profession for its hygienic qualities and, as it can be worn with or without a corset, it is of special interest to the mothers of growing girls who desire to conserve their figures, without restriction. It is usually found to give quite sufficient support to those who are fond of sports, or for wear with a boudoir gown. If worn with a corset its patent attachments make it absolutely firm. Maternity nurses should specially note it as it is the only Brassier which does not interfere with infant feeding. The sole manufacturer is Wardalla, Ltd., 104, George Street, Portman Square, W.1., and the prices are from 15s. 9d. upwards.

The Brassier attracted much notice and praise at the recent Exhibition at the Royal Horticultural Hall.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

"Wisdom is to the soul what health is to the body."—*Rochefoucauld*.

"Character is stronger than intellect; a great soul will be strong to live as well as to think."—*Emerson*.

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