

with terrazzo with special terrazzo base constructed to prevent the contact of heads of beds with plastered walls. Floor and base of service kitchens are finished with quarry tile and have glazed tile wainscoting, while all toilet, bath, utility and sterilising rooms are finished with ceramic floor tile and white glazed tile wainscot. Operating rooms have finished floors of 4 by 4 vitreous gray tile and glazed tile wainscot. The general and psychopathic buildings are equipped with clothes chutes.

### MURDER MONEY.

The far-spread demoralising "Cocaine" conspiracy can no longer be ignored by Governments, and far more drastic punishments than fines are required to stamp it out. But first of all each Government must search its balance sheet and estimate how much murder money it is taking at the receipt of custom—India and China must cut down supplies, and drug pedlars should be flogged if caught red-handed, especially for demoralising the young. From New York comes the information that according to statements made in Congress, traffickers in narcotic drugs are making systematic efforts throughout the country to corrupt school and university students, and it would appear that these efforts are meeting with considerable success.

The American Senate has passed an amendment to the Anti-Narcotic Act prohibiting the illicit importation of narcotics into the United States under a penalty of 5,000 dollars fine and ten years' imprisonment. A board will be set up and authorised to permit the importation of the necessary quantities of crude opium and coca leaves (from which cocaine is obtained).

Our Government must do likewise.

### CANCER MORTALITY.

The increase of deaths from cancer and the lack of scientific knowledge of its cause and origin is arousing widespread interest. At home generous grants of money have been given by individuals to prosecute investigation, and all sorts of suggestions of its cause are appearing in the Press. In the meanwhile, M. Paul Strauss, the French Minister of Hygiene, has appointed a Commission to co-ordinate the fight against cancer from the pathogenic, clinical, therapeutic, and prophylactic points of view. The President of the Commission is Dr. Roux, of the Pasteur Institute. We must also enlist the energies of the best brains available. In London alone 100 victims die weekly of this cruel disease.

There is no great and no small  
To the Soul that maketh all;  
And where it comest, all things are;  
And it comest everywhere.

### WHY IS NURSING A PROFESSION?

"One of the present day cries is that 'nursing is a profession.' It is, but is not made so merely by stating the fact, says *The Modern Hospital*. A trade grows into a profession when it begins to have ideals and a soul, and when the members of that trade are united in the effort to attain the one and express the other, says a member of the San Francisco County Nurses' Association. The real members of the nursing profession are women of high ideals and broad vision, and it is too bad that nurses of smaller vision sometimes give a wrong impression to the rest of the world. One nurse, when asked if there were a future in nursing, replied by telling the enviable state of a nurse friend of hers who had a position with a wealthy family which did not need her services, and which lavished so many presents upon her that she was able to put most of her salary in the bank. Women of the type who could hold such an ideal of service as this are being taken into hospitals to-day because the hospitals must be run. But the only women who can uphold the ideal of the profession are women who have the power to think for themselves, and a vision broad enough to grasp the social, economic, and political aspects of life as it is."

We warmly agree with these views. It is therefore necessary for women to control their own associations and governing body, and it is particularly vain and mean of doctors and the laity to grasp power over such associations, and degrade its members merely to "serving sisters" who contrary to conviction must obey or resist despotism. Our General Nursing Council is at present an example both in body and spirit of self control, and those who resist its evil influence, are maligned and hounded.

### COMING EVENTS.

June 9th.—Meeting Matrons' Council, Royal British Nurses' Association Club, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W. Miss H. L. Pearse and Miss J. C. Child will speak on the International Council of Nurses' Meeting at Copenhagen. 3 p.m.

June 10th.—Meeting Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council. 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 4 p.m.

June 16th.—Monthly Meeting. General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W. 2.30 p.m.

June 22.—Monthly Meeting. Central Midwives' Board. 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, S.W.

June 30th.—Royal British Nurses' Association. Annual Meeting. Her Royal Highness, Princess Christian, the President, will preside. 194, Queen's Gate, S.W. 5.30 p.m.

July 8th.—General Meeting League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, Clinical Theatre. Social Gathering, Great Hall, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C. 3 p.m.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)