

science, without our practical aid, is capable of bringing relief. Why, therefore, are Registered Nurses not recognised and represented amongst the patrons?

Further information can be obtained from Headquarters, 20, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.

At a recent meeting of the Steyning Board of Guardians Mr. Mews moved the adoption of the proceedings of the House Committee:—

The House Committee had before it a letter from the Inspector of the Ministry of Health (Mr. J. S. Oxley, C.B.E.) replying to a missive addressed to him by the Guardians, in reference to the difficulty experienced in obtaining probationer nurses since the period of training had been increased to four years, and the committee recommended that the General Nursing Council be informed of the difficulties and asked to consider the question of reducing the period of training to three years as formerly.

Infirmaries which are unable to rank as complete training schools, with a three years' term of training, will find difficulty in obtaining probationers for the affiliated scheme. This difficulty must be faced, as it is not fair to attempt to rank as a training school unless the clinical material for nurse training is available. Too many inefficient nurses have been turned out by such a system in the past.

To "bob" or not to "bob" the hair in hospital appears to rank as a matter of first class importance in the general press:—

A *Weekly Dispatch* representative made inquiries at London hospitals in order to discover whether bobbed hair was a bar to probationers, and the following are some of the replies:

THE LONDON HOSPITAL.—"We do not take nurses with bobbed hair."

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL.—"We have no objection to bobbed hair—so long as the nurses are tidy."

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—"Nurses have a uniform, and bobbed hair is not part of it. We prefer probationers without bobbed hair."

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL.—"We judge applicants on their merits: the question of bobbed hair does not enter into our deliberations."

THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.—"We have no bar, but we object to bobbed hair on the grounds of untidiness."

THE LONDON TEMPERANCE HOSPITAL.—"We have no objection to bobbed hair nurses."

LONDON FEVER HOSPITAL.—"We are in

favour of bobbed hair, because it lessens the chances of infection, and because we have to wash our hair every time we go out to friends."

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL.—"We are very much against bobbed hair, and, while we do not bar probationers on this ground, we make it a condition that they must let their hair grow when admitted."

The *Insch Nursing Association* has provided its nurse with a motor-cycle. An excellent idea, to ride which should be much less tiring than using the ordinary cycle provided for district nurses.

Miss Jentie Paterson, Truby King Lecturer, opened her campaign in the interests of Child Welfare and Health in Cape Town in an atmosphere of great enthusiasm, and had a splendid "press," the *Cape Times* and the *Argus* devoting columns, including leaders, to reporting her teaching. At the opening meeting, held in the fine Banqueting Hall, the Chair was taken by the new Officer for Health for Cape Town, Dr. T. Shadick Higgins, and was supported by a most representative "Nursing" platform.

Miss Paterson was the guest to luncheon of Mrs. Bennie, President of the Western Province Branch of the Trained Nurses' Association, where she met the Matrons of the various hospitals of the Peninsula.

The *Cape Times* states editorially:—

"The European infantile mortality rates in both England and South Africa are seen still to be disastrously high when compared with New Zealand's figures. Sixteen years ago, when Dr. Truby first started his magnificent work, the New Zealand infantile mortality rate was about 80—the present English rate. To-day it is 41. It is obvious that South Africa must look to New Zealand for enlightenment in this vital matter of child welfare. We have only to learn how New Zealand has organized the care of mothers and children and to put the lessons to practical use, and we can save nearly half the babies that now die. New Zealand has, however, no mysterious secret to impart. The knowledge that is hers is also ours. But what New Zealand has done is to organise the dissemination of this knowledge throughout every stratum of society. She has taken the pains to teach mothers how to be mothers; she has placed sound practical knowledge at the disposal of every woman; and she has not made the mistake of imagining that only the women of the poorer classes need teaching in maternity matters. We sincerely hope that every woman in the Peninsula will make it her business to attend one or other of the many lectures Miss Paterson is giving this month."

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