

It has divided the camp between the lay and the "religious" nurse, it is true, but it has brought the vocational nursing nun up to date and into line.

Another dividing point between the French and Belgian movement is the great factor that Belgium is not handicapped by an anti-clerical, anti-royalistic sub-conscious movement. The Belgians have a King and a Queen who endeared themselves to their people by their love and sympathy for the sick and suffering poor before the war and by their courage and devotion during the war. H.M. Queen Elisabeth, who is the daughter of the Prince physician and oculist, and who had helped her royal father with his work amongst the poor before she became Queen of the Belgians, is literally worshipped here; so that the very fact of her mothering and helping the nurses herself has naturally been a great support and incentive to the nursing cause. The great difficulty, of course, is always the financial one, but as far back as 1909-1911 various municipal hospitals and institutions showed their appreciation and approval of the Edith Cavell School pupils by making grants, employing certificated nurses and by starting fresh schools on the new lines.

The new school of thought had already taken root when the war broke out; its nurses were tested and proved, and the tragic deaths of Madame Depage and Miss Cavell have given a heroic glamour to nursing in Belgium which can never die.

Financial help in money and in hospital equipment has come from American and English friends, and grants from the Red Cross Societies and from the Anglo-Belgian Union. The names of Madame Solvey, Madame Graux, and Miss Heynemann of California, as generous benefactrices, must not be omitted. It is not necessary to enter into details as to the practical and theoretical standards of training. They are those carried on in the London training schools. Mademoiselle De Meyer, who is the Matron, took charge of the School at Edith Cavell's death during the German occupation and when they were in the midst of moving from the old building into the new one. "I am so sorry,"

wrote Edith Cavell, "to leave you to face so much work and such a state of disorder before my death." But Mademoiselle De Meyer, who is a tower of strength in herself physically, mentally, and morally, was equal to the occasion, and has held the position of Directrice ever since 1915 with the greatest satisfaction to the Committee of the Hospital.

Mademoiselle De Meyer is not only a *diplomée* of the Edith Cavell School, but has benefited by the American grant to obtain further post-graduate training at the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh. Her brother is a heart and nerve specialist at Brussels, so that laws of heredity do tell, and her intellectual interest in her adopted professional work is easily explained. She is moreover a born Matron and Directrice.

EDLA R. WORTABET.

Our readers will watch with interest the history of this school.

#### BRITISH NURSES' HOLIDAY ASSOCIATION.

Members of the Nursing Profession, whose holidays are limited, desire to spend them to the very best advantage, but few, if they wish to travel, have much time to spend on the necessary arrangements beforehand, and many have only a limited knowledge of conditions abroad. Why not therefore join the British Nurses' Holiday Association? The Annual Subscription is 2s. 6d.; and forms of membership can be obtained from the General Secretary B.N.H.A., Capt. W. G. Hurtt, 170, Norbury Avenue, Thornton Heath, who is pleased to map out tours and holidays according to members' requirements, either in connection with the Association's recognised tours at home or abroad, or independent travel can be arranged. Only *bona-fide* nurses are eligible for membership, or entitled to special terms; but members of their families can become Associates and share the advantages. The holiday season is now commencing, and we advise nurses to get into touch with Captain Hurtt forthwith.

#### PRESENTATION.

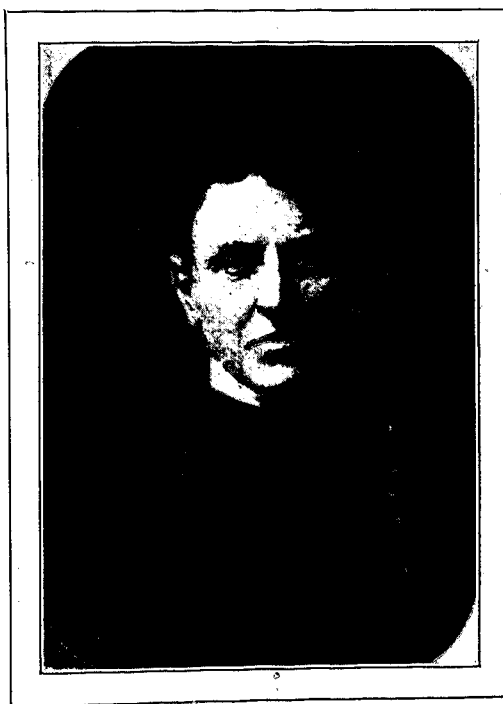
Interesting presentations were made to Miss Davies, the newly appointed Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Cardiff, at Llangwyfan (Denbigh), on the eve of her departure from the North Wales Sanatorium, where she had held the post of Matron since the establishment of that institution some years ago. The children of the institution presented her with a lovely bouquet, while the house committee's testimonial was a fitted dressing-case; the staff gave a silver salver, and the patients a silver eight-day clock.

Dr. Powell, the Medical Superintendent of the institution, presided, and speeches in appreciation of Miss Davies' work at Llangwyfan were made by Sir D. S. Davies, chairman of the house committee; Mr. Buckley (Mold), vice-chairman; and Mr. D. W. Evans, director of the memorial association, who, as a member of the board of governors of the Cardiff Infirmary, congratulated the governors on the acquisition of a capable Matron.

The presentations were made by Mrs. Tomkinson on behalf of the committee, Sister Griffiths on behalf of the staff, and Miss Hannah Jones for the patients.

#### AN EXAMINATION QUALIFYING FOR THE STATE REGISTER IN IRELAND.

On April 9th and 11th an Examination was held under the authority of the General Nursing Council for Ireland, at the Meath Hospital, Dublin, for Existing Nurses who had failed to apply for Registration on or before August 31st of last year. Sixty-four nurses presented themselves, all of whom passed. The Examiners were Miss Margaret Huxley, R.G.N., Miss O'Flynn, R.G.N., and Miss Alice Reeves, R.G.N. The nurses must have been well pleased with the result, for all of them satisfied the examiners that they were worthy of admission to the State Register. Four other nurses who applied to enter for the examination did not present themselves.



MADemoiselle DE MEYER, DIRECTRICE,  
Edith Cavell - Marie Depage Hospital.

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