

profession, when so many other occupations were open to them, but he was quite sure that the Nursing Profession was the poorer for their absence.

Referring to Miss Nightingale's "Notes on Nursing," he expressed the view that though what little pathology it contained was wrong, and bacteriology was not then known, he supposed it was the best book on nursing ever likely to be written.

The Greenwich Guardians, at a recent meeting considered, on a Report from the Medical Superintendent the case of a Probationer Nurse who declined to sit for the State examination in Nursing. The Hospital Committee were of opinion that as the cost of the Probationers' training was provided from public funds, they themselves should do all that lay in their power to obtain the legal qualification entitling them to practice as Nurses, and they therefore recommended that it should be regarded as a part of the agreement between the Guardians and Probationers that the latter must qualify and sit for the examination.

After discussion, the report was agreed to by ten to two, it being made a condition that the agreement should operate from the day of the meeting.

We hope that the Guardians will carry their action to a logical conclusion and stipulate that applicants must be Registered Nurses when advertising vacant appointments.

It was a fortunate circumstance which took Nurse Sargison, of East Barkwith, Lincs, to nurse the little son of Mr. C. Stephenson, LL.D., a solicitor, at Retford. Recently Mr. Stephenson had occasion to examine advertisements for lost relatives, and his eye caught the name Sargison. Inquiries were made, and it was found that a distant relative of the nurse had left considerable property in Hull to Mr. Sargison, or, failing him, to his children.

The Scottish Council of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses is, at present, organising meetings for the extension of district nursing throughout Scotland, and has appointed Miss Watt to assist local bodies in forming new nursing associations. One satisfactory result is that the following offer has been made by the Scottish Oils (Ltd.):—"In connection with proposed development of a home nursing service for the shale field, the Company have decided to contribute a grant of £25 per annum for each nurse employed by the committees of local district nursing associations, the Company to have a representative on the committee of each district. In the event of any area not being able to raise the required amount by the contribution of 1d. per week from each workman, plus the grant of £25 from the Company, that area to make representation to the Company for special consideration, but the Company is to be satisfied that all the employees, in these particular districts, have contributed their one penny per week, and that an effort has been made locally to get the income up to the required amount."

The members of the Shale Miners' Union have agreed to make a weekly contribution of 1d. per member for the support of a local district nurse. The results will be that there will, in the course of the near future, be fourteen Queen's Nurses working in an area which has not at present any district nurses.

A correspondent of *The Scotsman* gives the following interesting account of the development of nurse-training in Edinburgh:—

"In the year 1863 two ladies who had learned in Germany the value of trained Kaiserswerth nurses came to live in Edinburgh. Finding by experience a sad lack here of sick comforts, they determined, if possible, to supply the want. With a few like-minded friends they endeavoured to arouse interest in the matter. At first they met with little help or encouragement, even among members of the medical profession; indeed, the surgeons of the time were specially opposed to the threatened innovations, one of the best known writing letters to *The Scotsman* protesting against the implied slur on the excellent women hitherto employed. He had no fault to find with the existing state of things either in the Infirmary or outside.

"At length Dr. Warburton Begbie came to the rescue, and offered to let the reformers make their experiment in his wards in the Old Infirmary. They then corresponded with Miss Nightingale, and she sent them a qualified lady as ward sister and two thoroughly trained nurses from St. Thomas's. Two or three young women were engaged as "apprentices" or probationers, who, after one year's training, were sent out to undertake cases in private families. But the very necessary knowledge of surgical and fever nursing was still wanting. As the Edinburgh surgeons refused to open their wards to these women, they had to be sent elsewhere for training."

The Biennial National Nursing Convention of the American Nurses' Association, the National League of Nursing Education, and the National Organisation for Public Health Nursing was held in Detroit, Michigan, from June 16th-21st. There was a splendid programme, and the Presidents of the three Associations—Miss Laura R. Logan, R.N., National League of Nursing Education, Miss Adda Eldredge, R.N., President American Nurses' Association, and Miss Elizabeth G. Fox, R.N., President of the National Organisation for Public Health Nursing—presided on the various days. We shall hope to give more information in a future issue when reports come to hand.

In a recent paper, entitled "Thirty Years of Progress in Nursing," Miss Nutting has given us a panoramic view of the onward march of our nursing forces, and her concluding sentences may well serve as a watchword for the future: "How coldly bare and formal it all sounds in the mere recital; how full in actual life it has been of warm devotion, of splendid energy, of heroic tasks carried through with unflinching courage, and of common daily tasks patiently and faithfully fulfilled. Our golden age, however, is not in the past, it is in the future, and the best inheritance we can carry over from the past is the spirit which has brought us through these difficult years, with undiminished courage and unshaken faith in the beliefs and principles for which we have striven.

"The Spirit leads one to seek ever for the right solution to the difficult problem. Guided by it, we may falter, we may fall, but the Spirit which giveth life survives our failure—it alone leads to progress."

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