

over. Not the least difficult part of the feat was, laden with the boy, to scale the wooden ladder leading up the slippery wall, as some of the wooden rungs were broken.

At the last Monthly Meeting of the Committee of the Tyrone County Hospital, Omagh, Dr. Thompson referred to the refusal of the Joint Nursing and Midwives Council of Northern Ireland to recognise the hospital as a Training School unless they sent their nurses for training for two years to another hospital. The Council had recognised Derry Hospital as a Training School, why then they had refused to recognise the Tyrone Hospital, which was the only county hospital in the North of Ireland, in fact in the whole of Ireland, with a Training School, he did not know. He thought the Committee should take serious notice of it.

Captain Herdman, a member of a deputation which had interviewed the Nursing Council in Belfast, said that it had no hostility to the hospital, but unless the nurses could get lectures daily there was little prospect of their passing the examinations. It was also suggested that the Committee might appoint a Teaching Sister, but that would cost them from £250 to £300 a year, and would not pay them.

In reply to a question Dr. Thompson said that Dr. Dagan lectured the nurses, and Miss Hayes lectured them, and he lectured them continually as he went around the hospital, and they were being practically trained in their work.

Colonel Howard said all the Nursing Council required was for their regulations to be complied with, and the best thing for the Committee to do would be to conform to them.

Eventually it was agreed to ask the Nursing Council to send a member to the next meeting of the Committee to exchange views on the subject.

An interesting account of the graduating exercises of the Nursing School of the Hunan Yale Hospital is published in the *Quarterly Journal for Chinese Nurses*, held in combination with those of six college students, and five medical students, who received their degrees at the same time that the seventeen nurses received their diplomas.

For the first time the Nurses' Class entertained their friends by presenting a public health play, to bring before those understanding little of health principles some commonly known methods of disease prevention.

The play which was preceded by an address by Miss Gage, Dean of the Nursing School, was the main event of the afternoon.

The characters in the play were: Evil Spirit of Disease and three Lesser Spirits—Fly, Mosquito and Rat, Health Fairy, the Rich Man, Scavenger, Fruit Pedlars, Coolie, Social Service Nurse, Public Health Doctor, and Students. The Play develops the battle between the Evil Spirit of Disease and the Health Fairy, and the Fifth Scene shows the New City. The Food Pedlars have their fruit, candy, etc. screened, making it safe for the students outside whose doors they have their stands. The sewage gatherers have their pails well covered, the rubbish is cleaned from the street, and a healthy aspect is displayed everywhere.

THE NATIONAL HEALTH. THE ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE.

The Congress this year took place in Liverpool from July 14th to 18th inclusive. So many subjects of vital interest and importance were dealt with, that it is impossible to do justice to them in a necessarily brief account. An epitome embodying the essence of the valuable Papers read and speeches made is all that the readers of our JOURNAL will expect, I hope.

Delegates, numbering 1,250, from all parts of the world were present at the Thirty-fifth Annual Congress of this great Institute. The Marquis of Salisbury, who was the chosen President for this year, delivered his Presidential Address in St. George's Hall, on the evening of the 14th ult. In referring to the classical saying of Lord Beaconsfield, "*Sanitas, Sanitatum, omnia Sanitas*," he observed that it marked the first chapter of the modern development of sanitary politics, and that from that day to this much progress had been made, but much remains to be done.

This potent fact was amply proved by the activities of the Congress, which were classified into five Sections, as follows:—A, Sanitary Science; B, Engineering and Architecture; C, Maternity and Child Welfare, including School Hygiene; D, Personal and Domestic Hygiene; E, Industrial Hygiene. Dr. Feldman, of the London Hospital, read a Paper under Section A, of supreme importance, and had it been possible to be in five places at once the 1,250 delegates should have been there!

Under the title "The Place of Popular Education in a Public Health Programme," he stressed the great importance—in the interests of self-preservation, and also of true citizenship—of well-grounded instruction to the rising generation of facts concerning the "normal healthy workings of their own bodies," in other words, that the school curriculum should of necessity include elementary hygiene and physiology. The Medical Profession, he declared, were more and more realising that its true vocation, as an organised profession, was to *prevent* rather than to cure disease, but their "mammoth stumbling-block" was the ignorance of the masses. Dr. Feldman is one of the well-known speakers for the National Council for Combating Venereal Disease, and strongly and insistently urges the necessity of the enlightenment of the young in this connection by systematic sex education.

Care work in Tuberculosis would naturally find its rightful place in a Congress of this sort, and Dr. J. Johnstone Jervis, M.O.H., Leeds, spoke words of wisdom and foresight when he remarked that if we could have more "Preventoria" we should soon reduce the number of Sanatoria. Considerable time was wisely occupied with Papers and discussions on Maternity and Child Welfare, including, of course, Ante-Natal work, the importance of which was abundantly emphasised.

Dr. Cook, of Guy's Hospital, remarked that it was quite obvious that the General Public were learning to appreciate the objects and attainments of Ante-Natal work, and he confidently expected that in a short time pregnant women would, without persuasion, present themselves for examination and advice.

Colonel Blackham, Kaiser-i-Hind Medallist for Public Services in India, gave a vivid account of Infant Welfare work in that country. Owing to caste prejudice, superstition, and the appalling ignorance of the Dais or native untrained Midwives, there has been a fearful sacrifice of infant and maternal lives; nevertheless a very great improvement has taken place of recent years, due to the work of the Central Organisation, called the "All-India League for Maternity and Child Welfare." Its activities are in four directions: (a) Propaganda, (b) Publications, (c) Training Schools, (d) Local Branches.

The subjects of Clean Milk, Housing, Dental Work of Maternity and Child Welfare, and School Hygiene, and many others of equal interest were duly dealt with. The well-known and progressive-minded Dr. Hope, M.O.H., Liverpool, contributed a Paper of very great interest and usefulness, namely, the "Co-ordination of Public Health Services." The Corporation of Liverpool has accomplished much by its admirable Housing Scheme. It was my privilege to inspect a Model Infant Welfare Centre, built under the Carnegie Trust; it is the finest of the kind I have seen, and serves the purpose on the upper floor of an Observation Ward for sickly babies. I also visited a very up-to-date Pasteurising Plant a little way out of the City. Having listened to the reports of achievements in the various branches of Public Health Service, in various parts of the country, I can but endorse the words of the Marquis of Salisbury, namely, that "Sanitary Reform has been carried steadily forward by the flowing tide of British Public Opinion."

BEATRICE KENT.

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