

educated classes, and we had recently the great pleasure of welcoming Mlle. Teresa Junquera Ibran, from Santander, a charming young medical woman, at the British College of Nurses, and explaining to her the scope of its work. This lady, who, educated in Spain, speaks English like a native, has been entrusted with the responsibility of organising the nursing of the very beautiful new hospital partly erected at Santander, and has been in England studying methods. She has been spending a few days in various hospitals, amongst them King's College and University, and appears to have got quite a grip of the immense scope of what the work will be.

Dr. Ibran is full of enthusiasm and hope, but realises that Rome was not built in a day, and that it will be necessary to have highly skilled nurses—English, speaking Spanish if possible—to help her to found the school. It is just to this question of our ignorance of foreign tongues, which faces us more and more every day, that our nursing world must awake. We no longer live in haughty isolation. We can now fly to Calais and back in an hour, and if we are to keep pace with our European colleagues we must rouse ourselves to study languages.

Our great International presents its work from the platform in English, French, and German, and it is hopeless to assume that we can take front rank either in organisation or debate, unless we are more articulate.

We touched on the I.C.N. with Dr. Ibran, and both agreed Spain with its so magnificent past must lay sure foundations for affiliation in the future. This very intelligent little lady quite grasps the situation and realises that nursing, like medicine, must stand firmly on a thoroughly scientific basis.

In an interesting and expert article on the administration of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea by Australia, a special correspondent of *The Times* describes what is being done towards saving the natives by rehabilitating their health. The Public Health Department is a splendid organisation, consisting of a director, nine other doctors, thirty medical assistants—trained, but without degrees—and eight other officers, apart from the medical staff. The greatest health achievement of the Administration is the training of medical tul tuls. These are selected natives who, after training at district hospitals, are given caps of office, simple medicines, bandages and dressings, and are held responsible for the health and sanitation of their villages.

The Administration is now establishing a staff of white nurses to go into the villages and combat infant mortality, the average rate of which is about 50 per cent., puerperal mortality and malpractice, delicate problems which will require many years of patient effort.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES.

In the Report of the Public Health Committee of the L.C.C., ending June 30th, there is some information concerning the application of the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927. It is stated that 61 Applications for the registration of premises subject to certain provisions have been granted, and 16 subject to the nomination of a qualified Nurse to be resident at, and to superintend the nursing in the homes.

In respect of 108 hospitals and institutions not carried on for profit exemption of registration has been granted.

Keepers of nursing homes have been notified that unless a trained Nurse is resident registration will be cancelled, yet we regret to note that this rule has in one instance not been insisted upon. Why? The report does not state.

It has been decided to place on sale a list of registered nursing homes in London so soon as all applications for registration of homes have been dealt with.

We note with satisfaction that requirements necessary in connection with means of escape and fire precautions have been insisted upon. So far we hear of the appointment of no registered Nurse Inspectors by the L.C.C.—This is a very weak spot in its administration. Also cases of overcrowding in the nurses' quarters in speculative institutions might receive investigation.

THE KING'S ILLNESS.

Since His Majesty the King returned to London he has attended the Thanksgiving Service in Westminster Abbey, supported by the prayers of the nation. Later His Majesty underwent an operation to open up and give a free outlet to the original abscess, which has drained satisfactorily with every hope of complete cure. As soon as his medical advisers permit, the King will go to Sandringham for fresh air, and the affectionate good wishes of the people will go with him.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S NURSE.

It is announced in the *London Gazette* that the King has conferred the Decoration of the Royal Red Cross, Second Class, upon Miss Charlotte Haskins, in recognition of the devoted nursing service rendered by her to the Duke of Connaught.

RECOGNITION OF MISS SPARSHOTT'S WORK AT THE ROYAL INFIRMARY, MANCHESTER.

Miss M. E. Sparshott, S.R.N., is resigning the position of Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, and leaving on October 1st. It has been thought that many former Sisters and Nurses would like to contribute to a gift to her, in recognition of her long and able service to the Nurse Training School, which she has superintended for so many years.

All contributions should be sent before September 10th, to Miss Mundy, The Royal Infirmary, Manchester.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL.

The International Red Cross Committee, in announcing the fifth distribution of the Florence Nightingale medal, states that the medal for England has been awarded to Dame Sarah Swift, G.B.E., R.R.C.

Dame Sarah Swift was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Dundee, and was Matron of Guy's Hospital till 1909. She was Matron-in-Chief of the British Red Cross Society, and Order of St. John during the war, and was created Dame Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire in 1919.

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