

Warburton Goodrich at the Biennial Convention in San Antonio. It was presented by Dr. Edward H. Carey, president-elect of the American Medical Association, who, in making the presentation, said: "Dean Goodrich is an excellent example of character, industry, helpfulness, training and intelligent leadership. Her life has been one of activity, intelligently directed, optimistically useful and so strikingly an example worthy to be followed that it is an honour and a pleasure to bestow upon her this high reward."

Her British Colleagues will wish to add congratulations on this well deserved honour to Miss Goodrich. As one of the three Hon. Presidents of the I.C.N., with a seat on its Grand Council for life, she belongs to us all.

Our charming friend, with us last year, Miss Elnora Thomson was re-elected President of the American Nurses' Association at its recent Meeting at San Antonio, Texas.

Miss Effie J. Taylor, also "one of us over here," Superintendent of Nurses, New Haven Hospital, Yale University, was elected President of the National League of Nursing Education, and Miss Sophie C. Nelson was re-elected President of the National Organisation of Public Health Nursing.

Sister Beatrice Treasure, S.R.N., who has been nursing in the Vansittart family for some time has received a beautiful "nurses" wrist watch from Lady Vansittart. The design of the watch is of a special pattern to be worn suitably with uniform.

Some time perhaps a State Registered Nurse in uniform will appear at Madame Tussaud's. If so, as she wears it so neatly, Sister Treasure must "sit" for the model!

When in Derbyshire recently, where he visited a number of rural social service centres, the Prince of Wales laid the foundation stone of a Florence Nightingale Hall at the village of Holloway, near Matlock, in which village Lea Hurst, the ancestral home of Florence Nightingale, is situated, and where the Nightingale family still reside.

The Annual Service for Nurses took place in the Liverpool Cathedral on the afternoon of May 8th; there was a large congregation. Contingents of Nurses from local hospitals occupied the Cathedral stalls. The Venerable G. J. Howson, Archdeacon of Warrington, was the preacher. He was assisted in the service by the Rev. W. H. S. Ingles.

The Service opened with the Hymn "Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven," and the organ music throughout was exquisite.

Archdeacon Howson, speaking from the text: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord," said they were all sharers in the Master's great commission—"Witnesses unto Me." To carry out the Master's beautiful appeal and challenge they needed remembrance, rededication, and re-inspiration. The spirit that endowed those who looked thus upon the world's need was not merely philanthropic, or social, or simply pity; it was religious.

"We are grateful to you," said the Archdeacon, "for what you are doing and for what you are going to do." A question which every matron asked every newcomer was: "Why do you wish to be a nurse?" Various

answers might be given, but there was the underlying thought that in that work they might serve the Master and their fellow-beings. That was the idea permeating that service—"By love serve one another."

This beautiful and inspiring Service, so sincerely appreciated by the nurses of Liverpool, might well be inaugurated in other Cathedral towns.

In no department of our hospitals has more marked improvement taken place in recent years than in the operating theatre, so that the report of a fatal accident from lack of attention comes as a shock to those of us who know the technical skill and devotion of surgeons and nurses when attending an operation. A young woman admitted to hospital with acute meningitis was found in need of an immediate operation, an anaesthetic was given and she was taken to the theatre and placed on the table, from which she fell a distance of four feet on to a marble floor; when picked up life was found to be extinct. How was it possible for such an accident to occur? Surely it is a fundamental principle that an insensible patient should be carefully guarded and never left for a moment until consciousness returns—thus those in charge were surely more than careless in the performance of duty. We are therefore not surprised that, at the subsequent inquest, the coroner remarked "that such an accident ought never to have happened." In returning a verdict of "death from meningitis" the jury added a strong recommendation for an "additional nurse to be in constant attendance with patients undergoing an operation."

Considering that it was reported that there were three doctors and three nurses in the operating theatre at the time of the accident, the recommendation of the jury would have been more efficacious if they had impressed upon those present the injurious result of their lack of supervision.

The following letter has been addressed to Miss Peterkin by Miss F. Meyboom, late Matron, Municipal Hospital, Bergweg, Rotterdam:—

DEAR MISS PETERKIN,—Reading the article in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, giving notice of your retirement, I was conscious of great emotion, and before your going I do want to write to you just a few words.

Talking about you and your work in one of the meetings, the Board of the Dutch Nurses' Association (Nationale Bond van Verplegenden) begged me to thank you so very much indeed for everything you did for your Dutch colleagues. I personally remember with great delight and joy the many times I had the privilege of meeting you. You never have sent me away without meeting my requests, you always helped the Dutch nurses and gave them the opportunity to get experience in district nursing in London, which has a world reputation largely because of your efforts.

I am sure you will be missed dreadfully in your own country, for scarcely will they hope to find a woman with the qualifications of heart and head with which you are endowed. We Dutch nurses and colleagues of yours will miss you also as a very able superintendent, a courteous colleague, and a good friend.

Nursing is international, so we all feel it as a great grief to say good-bye to one of such high idealism who has helped to raise nursing standards to a high point. We send you from Holland our best wishes and many thanks. We do hope that your well-earned retirement will prove successful and happy.

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