

it means far more.' It is to the word 'now' that I take exception. I maintain that to the woman with a true vocation, nursing always has, and always will mean far more than the carrying out of certain forms of treatment, and that in the early days of the Nursing revival, as now, it demanded of those not content with the second rate, the training of every faculty they possessed."

It appears to us that Miss Rogers has misunderstood the implication of the word "now" as intended by Miss Dickinson. No one can read her book without being impressed with the extremely delicate and critical manipulations required of gynaecological nurses in the every-day discharge of their duties. Those expected of nurses even a quarter of a century ago were much simpler. But we do not think Miss Dickinson intended to imply that the average nurse to-day has a higher sense of nursing as a vocation than "her predecessor in the early days of the Nursing revival," of whom, indeed, Miss Rogers herself is so splendid and shining an example.

As an example of duties required of present-day nurses, study the three extremely interesting treatments described by members of the League in their current Journal on "Spinal Washouts," "The Nursing of Pink Disease," and "The Treatment of Empyema," the notes upon which all nurses would be the better for possessing, but the knowledge and erudition displayed by the writers would have been deemed out of place in a nurse, and possibly resented as encroaching on the province of medicine, not so many years ago.

Miss Hughes and Miss Embry both contribute brief notices of the International Congress of Nurses. Miss Hughes writes: "We shall not easily forget all that we saw and heard during that crowded week. Excellent resolutions were put forward, informative papers prepared and read, and much thought put into a great united effort for the betterment of the Nursing Profession."

Miss Embry writes: "The outstanding impression left on my mind by the Conference is of the great friendliness shown by everyone, and the spirit of camaraderie between the nurses of all countries which should do much, not only for the reciprocal understanding of nursing methods and training, but also lead to a better understanding and friendship among the nations."

The late Miss Mary Elizabeth Ann Ray, of Wetherby Mansions, Earl's Court Square, S.W., formerly Sister-matron of King's College Hospital, left £10,023. She died intestate.

The L.C.C. have agreed that institutions for the blind shall be entrusted with the tuning and regulating and repairing of pianofortes at mental hospitals.

THE RETIREMENT OF MISS CLARA RHODA GOODING, S.R.N., F.B.C.N.

The retirement of Miss Clara Rhoda Gooding from the position of Matron of the Western (Fever) Hospital, Fulham, comes somewhat as a shock to her wide circle of friends, but when we recollect how long has been her honourable nursing career, no doubt it is time she should enjoy rest from her onerous duties, and we shall hope to enjoy more of her delightful company, as Miss Gooding is valued not only for her keen sense of duty, but for her power of enjoyment and her capacity of sharing her happiness and good fellowship with others.

Miss Gooding was trained at the Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester, and was promoted to be Sister of a male surgical accident ward and Sister of the theatre. Her next posts were at the Royal National Hospital,

Ventnor, for Consumption, as Sister and Night Sister. She entered the service of the Metropolitan Asylum's Board at the Fountain Hospital, Tooting, in 1900, as Sister, and was promoted to Night Sister, House-keeper, and later to be Assistant Matron. In 1914 Miss Gooding was appointed Matron at the Western Hospital, Fulham, which important position she has held with distinction for 20 years—a position she resigns to the sincere regret of all her colleagues.

Miss Gooding was not only a first class official, loyal and devoted to the Service of which she has been so long a member, but she also realised her professional responsibility. She was a member of several nurses' organisations which supported the demand for statutory nursing education and State Registration, and stood firmly with her colleagues during the years of stress and opposition.

She is a member of the Matrons' Council which for seven years stood almost alone in its demand for legal status for nurses, of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and is a Fellow of the British College of Nurses and is a keen supporter of the International Council of Nurses. All her colleagues will unite in wishing Miss Gooding complete recovery from her recent indisposition and after rest, hope to welcome her back to the ranks of active participation in the various branches of nursing organisation, a field in which there is always scope for courage and fellowship.

WHAT TO READ.

- "Night over Fitch's Pond," Cora Jarrett.
- "Susanne," Johannes Buchholtz.
- "Oliver Cromwell," John Buchan.
- "T. P. O'Connor," Hamilton Fyfe.
- "Memoirs of the Unemployed," Edited by H. L. Beales and R. S. Lambert.
- "Sulgrave Manor and the Washingtons."
- "The Founding of Maryland," Matthew Page Andrews.



Miss Clara Rhoda Gooding, S.R.N., F.B.C.N.,
Matron, Western Hospital, Fulham.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)