

provinces. It was, in fact, the most representative Conference that the Nurses' Association has yet held. No one could fail to be impressed with the remarkable progress made by the Chinese nurses. The excellent way in which they dealt with the business of the meetings, the lucid and practical speeches, and the sense of responsibility shown by the delegates, made us all greatly rejoice.

The most momentous event of the Conference was the announcement made by the President, that the Ministry of Education had made plans to inspect and register all our Schools of Nursing. The President, Victoria Yen, is the Director of Nursing Affairs to the government, and this decision had been made with her co-operation. The required standard of education is very high, and the reading of the curriculum in detail caused a good deal of consternation. Many more subjects are to be added to our already heavy time-table to be taught in Chinese such as citizenship, sociology, psychology, etc. After much heated discussion the Conference appointed a Committee of fourteen members, one from each province, with Mr. James Liu as Chairman, to carefully go over this curriculum. The report they brought in was accepted by the Conference and sent to the Minister of Education, as embodying our views and suggestions. We were reassured to find that on the newly-formed Central Board of Nursing Education no less than five of our most trusted nurses had been appointed to represent us. Mrs. Victoria Yen, our President, Miss Mary Shih to represent Christian hospitals, Miss Bernice Chu to represent Government hospitals, Miss Hu to support the Public Health Nurses' interests, and our own James Liu to represent men nurses. All five are fine Christian workers, and incidentally they all are Methodists. This Board is to have charge of all the arrangements for registration and inspection and we can hardly realise how important and epoch-making a step this is. One speaker at the Conference reminded us that English Nurses struggled for thirty years before State registration was granted to them, and in America there is no national registration, only separate State registration laws. We also gladly noted the increasing emphasis that the Government is laying upon the propagation of health principles. There can be no country in the world where the need is more urgent.

Since last October the Central Health Bureau has sent out over one hundred of our N.A.C. trained nurses to various rural areas as health and hygiene workers. Two have gone as far north as Kokonor. Another class of nearly fifty nurses are now taking the six months' course which the Health Bureau in Nanking, the capital city, gives.

We here at the Methodist Hospital do a great amount of preventive work, in addition to our hospital routine. During the spring, over five thousand babies were vaccinated, and inoculations against cholera and cerebrospinal meningitis are given to hundreds of people each year. Our Baby Show is becoming an annual event and there are health meetings constantly held to which we send speakers. One of our nurses, Miss Irene Hou, has recently gone to the Peking Union Medical College to take a year's post-graduate course in Public Health. On her return we hope to still further our efforts in that branch of service.

Friends will remember that at our celebration of seventy years of work last May, we planned to raise a fund to equip a department for massage and electro-therapy. Another nurse has gone to take a course in this branch under Miss Gladys Nunn at Shantung University Hospital and we hope that we shall have enough funds in hand for the equipment before she returns.

September each year sees a new class of student nurses admitted for training. This year we have no less than thirty-five new students. Since the Union Hospital opened, this course has been given there each year. As it

was impossible to leave one's duties at the Methodist Hospital at this busy time the Committee agreed that the course should be held here for this year. The hospital premises could not accommodate so large a class, but the David Hill Blind School next door to us kindly came to the rescue and lent us a dormitory and two classrooms.

The Blind School is contemplating amalgamation into a larger United Blind School at some future date, then we hope that the present premises will become a Nurses' Home for the staff of this hospital. Every year during the great heat we have to borrow a large room for the accommodation of the night nurses, the hospital attic bedrooms becoming intolerable. The new Nurses' Home at the Union Hospital is greatly appreciated, but the nurses at this slum end of the city are not yet suitably provided for.

Most of the new students come from Christian homes and schools. A few have no church connection and have never even seen a Bible or heard the Gospel. One girl is the daughter of a Chinese medical man, and he wrote to us that his daughter was not a Christian, but that he was in no way opposed to Christianity and he was very glad that she should come to us. Please pray with us that Nurse Lillian and all the others may learn to love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and whole-heartedly give their lives to Him.

Last evening Miss Grace Lo, who has just returned from England, came in to see us. She was delighted to see the new large class of nurses, and at our request she gave them a little talk about her visit to England. They were extremely interested, as she told of her experiences in a most happy and vivacious manner. England's wonderful communications, the courtesy of travellers, the wonder of the London policemen and the value of home life, were among the things, it seems, that had greatly impressed her. Showing her over our rebuilt hospital, Miss Lo encountered an old school friend, named Mrs. Liu. Mrs. Liu is the secondary wife of a wealthy merchant who is now a patient in the hospital, and one could not but think of the immense difference in the lives of the two girls, Grace Lo's entirely different world due to her association with Christianity from her birth up. Christ does indeed spell hope out of despair and life out of death for the women of the East.

Miss Miriam Driver has joined our staff and taken over the supervision of the women's wards, while Miss Ida Robinson has taken her place at the Union Hospital.

Dr. J. W. Pell has gone to superintend the building of the hospital at Shih Huei Yao, a new Station down river and we miss him very much. We still await the much-needed lady doctor in the women's department of this hospital. We never cease to pray and believe that she will soon come. Dr. Wolfe is back again, we are glad to say, and goes up to Anlu (now called Chungsiang), where Miss Milner is already at work in the hospital. It is eight years since the hospital had a Matron, and we greatly rejoice to see our workers returning there once more with the countryside peaceful.

Greetings from :

GLADYS E. STEPHENSON.

The British Medical Association, having received the report of a special Committee, announce that they consider the proposed statutory recognition of a Register of Osteopaths, comparable to the Medical Register, unnecessary, and that an attempt to give to persons—osteopaths or others—who have not passed through the full medical curriculum the status and responsibilities of medical practitioners would be contrary to public interest, and cause confusion in the public mind.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)