

rebellious daughter who goes to bed late and gets up late, will not listen to father, then father cuts off supplies, and she goes to you.

"Within three weeks she gets up early, does what she is told to do, and says 'Yes, Sir,' to the Doctor at the double. How is it? Of course it is due to Florence Nightingale," but in his opinion hospital Matrons were the direct descendants of the squires' wives, and the vicars' wives, who managed everybody in the village, and devoted themselves to the sick and needy. In conclusion, the speaker congratulated the Matrons on having formed this association for mutual help.

Dr. O'Donovan hoped the Association would increase in numbers, authority, and in strength for service, and added "although you and I know there may be popular authorities, you and I know that the sick are our inheritance, and the sick are the only masters we recognise."

Miss Bryson then proposed the toast to "The Guests," and welcomed the young nurses who were present, and would be the continuers of the Matrons' work.

Dr. Malcolm Barker then rose on behalf of the visitors. He thought the Dinner marked an epoch in the social progress of the Association. He said that he thought that the work of Infectious Hospitals had not received the recognition they really deserved, and was much impressed by the fact that a representative of the Ministry of Health, in a speech given at the Conference of the Royal Sanitary Institute, stated that in future the Infectious Diseases Hospitals were to be of greater importance, better equipped, and their usefulness enlarged. He alluded to the "not altogether happy lot" and difficulties of the Matron, and thought the Association would be of much assistance to them.

He ended on a personal note, speaking of the years of association in his work with the President, Miss McLoughlin, and saying what great pleasure it gave him to see her in the Presidential Chair.

Miss I. Macdonald, of the Royal British Nurses' Association, also a guest of the Association, gave a short speech telling of how 25 years ago the Fever Matrons had reorganised their branch of the profession, and how she would have thought herself "all right" could she have visualised herself as invited to dine with those Olympians—the Matrons of the Fever Hospitals.

Miss J. T. Ruddy proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the President, and expressed her pleasure in having her as Chairman, when there was so much to be done.

This very happy evening ended with a variety entertainment kindly arranged by Mrs. Burns, and with the singing of the National Anthem.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

At the meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain, to be held at the House of the Royal British Nurses' Association, 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, on November 28th, at 3.30 p.m., important business will be discussed, including the question of the Nursing of the Chronic Sick. It is hoped that members will make every effort to be present.

THE LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

The Winter General Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, which will take place in the Lecture Room of the Nurses' Home, on Saturday, December 5th, at 3 p.m., will this year be preceded by a short service in the Church of St. Bartholomew-the-Less, at 2.30 p.m.

At the conclusion of the General Meeting there will be a Social Gathering in the Sitting Room, at 4 p.m.

THE TRAINED NURSES' ASSOCIATION OF INDIA.

The Annual Conference of the Trained Nurses' Association of India took place in Madras from October 6th to October 9th inclusive, under the presidency of Miss M. E. Abram, and was a very successful and delightful occasion.

The Executive Committee met on October 6th, and in the afternoon the President (Miss Abram) was "At Home" to delegates and friends, who were entertained to tea by the kind invitation of Miss Chadwick, at the Matrons' Bungalow, Egmore.

The Conference proper opened on the morning of October 7th, and was preceded by a service in St. George's Cathedral, when the address was given by the Bishop of Madras.

At the Opening Session, at which the Address was given by Lieut.-Col. Newcomb, Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, leading medical practitioners and other visitors were present.

Col. Newcomb said that from the doctor's point of view nothing is more important than good nursing as a therapeutic measure in the majority of diseases, and that in putting the patient in the best circumstances to allow nature to cure him, which is the object of most thinking doctors, no one is more important than the nurse.

Miss Abram began her Presidential Address by welcoming those present and said:—

"Year by year, we meet in different parts of India and gain inspiration and help and also some knowledge of the great problems which beset nursing in this land.

"Inspiration comes from the amazing interest shown by the Members in their Association, demonstrated by the long journeys taken so cheerfully to attend the Conferences. Many use up precious days of casual or other leave in order to come. All pay the whole of their expenses and give ungrudgingly their time to be present at the Conferences. It is to me a wonderful stimulus to see year by year the unflagging interest and support and the genuine sincerity shown towards everything for which the Association stands."

Regarding finance, the President said:—

"Finance, a very vital question, is ever present in my mind. The balancing of our budget is a great anxiety. As you know we have no grant of any kind to help us. All our activities depend on ourselves, the very life of the Association depends on our efforts to raise or subscribe the necessary funds for it to continue. . . .

"We have, as usual, a very full programme before us, and a very interesting one. Discussion on such leading subjects as Registration, the Status of the Nursing Profession in India, and an Eight Hour Day for Nurses, are sure to provide interesting matter.

"Other important subjects down for discussion are the Florence Nightingale International Foundation and the International Council of Nurses, with which we are affiliated." Concerning the latter, Miss Abram said:—

"The Quadrennial Congress, as you know, will be held in London this next year. Fortunately several of our members will be attending it as Delegates, and we shall look forward to their reports and accounts of the many interesting and vital subjects to nurses which will be discussed."

The Annual Report presented by the Secretary of the Association, Miss Diana Hartley, for the year 1935-1936, showed evidence of great activity and of useful work accomplished.

During the Conference the President drew the attention of Conference to an advertisement in the press inviting applications for the post of Matron at the General Hospital, Madras. It was pointed out that the position carried with it heavy responsibilities, and that the salary offered was totally inadequate and disproportionate to the work. Madras was a premier Presidency, the Hospital a premier one, and it must, therefore, have a premier Matron. They could not get a premier Matron at that salary. It was a matter for protest to the Government. The nature of the work was such that it would undermine the Matron's health. The last two Matrons, after service, had become invalids. They should have a capable person with strong

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