

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT



IN CHARGE OF
LAVINIA L. DOCK

ITEMS

MISS MARIE A. TRIPP, one of the American nurses in Paris, has opened a refined home for young girls who are studying in Paris and whose parents wish them to be well and carefully domiciled. It is No. 15 Rue Pétrarque.

THE last report of the Protestant Hospital under Dr. Hamilton's direction shows steady progress in every direction, and, highly interesting, Dr. Hamilton has established one of her nurses, Mlle. Ainary, as visiting nurse among the poor. The work was made possible by a gift from a grateful patient. So, in her eight years as superintendent, this distinguished woman has introduced modern skilled nursing into hospitals, into the army, and has started district nursing.

THREE graduates of the Bordeaux schools, Mesdemoiselles Chaumont, Labadie and Teyssière, have received appointments in the military hospital Val-de-Grâce. This is an important landmark in the triumphant progress of the "Nightingale System" in France. Out of 400 applications it is supposed that about forty have passed, and only six or eight appointments will be made in the near future. The Bordeaux schools have thus been signally recognized, in placing their nurses in the three first posts.

FIVE hundred nurses, says the *Woman's Journal*, walked in the great Woman's Parade of June 13, in their picturesque uniforms, under the Florence Nightingale banner. The women physicians were headed by Dr. Garrett Anderson, and had a banner with the goddess Hygeia; another bearing the word "Medicine" and the figure of a serpent. The London *Daily News* said: "Even the Cockney wags were moved to respect by the long files of medical women and university graduates, and at the sight of the banner with Miss Florence Nightingale's name upon it and the phalanx of trained nurses in its rear, there were many who bared their heads."

In speaking of this demonstration, *Nursing Notes*, which, like all English nursing journals, is progressive in its opinions, says:

Nurses and midwives, whose work ought to make them peculiarly sensitive to the true inner meaning of the present struggle, should be amongst the most earnest supporters of the woman's movement, and we feel convinced that so they will be when they have grasped its importance.

The gaining of voting power is merely a first step towards enabling women to give their best help in forwarding social, moral, and economic reforms, which without their coöperation may be disastrously delayed. The history of the Midwives' Act points this moral most strongly. The introduction of that Act was a reform especially, and most vitally, affecting women and children. Yet its fulfilment was postponed by our male legislators, placed in Parliament by male voters, year after year, in a way that would have been impossible had women had voting power behind them, instead of being able only to wield that "indirect influence," so revolting to the straight-forwardly minded, but which some persons consider to be more "feminine."

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It is in order that women may use their political power for the furtherance of social improvements, more especially in connection with these special questions relating to the healthy upbringing and proper education of the children whose care is admittedly their particular sphere, that we claim for them the vote on the same terms as men.

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It is most regrettable that in this matter of the recent demonstrations pressure should have been put upon nurses belonging to institutions and associations to prevent their taking part in the processions. This is an unjustifiable interference with their liberty of personal opinion and action, in a matter bearing in no way on their work, or on their relations with their employers, and is evidence of personal bias on the part of the authorities which is greatly to be deplored.

Just too late for our July pages came the *Garde-Malade Hospitalière* with many interesting pieces of news. First and foremost, the inspiring announcement of the formation of a national council of hospital "Directrices," brings beaming smiles of joy to the faces of International Councillors. Especially gratifying is this news to all those who were in France last year. The president is Mlle. Luigi, the charming superintendent of the Civil and Military Hospital at Béziers with its training school, and the vice-president is Miss Elston, the conspicuously successful and able head of the Tondou Hospital in Bordeaux. Mlle. Nectoux, head of the Civil and Military Hospital at Albi, and Mlle. Siegrist, head of the maternity of the Department of the Gironde, two of the competent and lovely graduates of the Bordeaux schools, are treasurer and secretary. The Council was organized by Dr. Anna Hamilton, who is the honorary vice-president of the International

Council for France. All the members are superintendents of hospitals. We wish the Council all success.

THE fires of controversy are burning brightly in France, not only over "laicisation" but also over the pressure made by the Red Cross societies to place their volunteer and only partly trained workers in the military hospitals for short rotating services. Dr. Lande, who is one of the most "all-around" men in France, having an active share in many lines of men's activities and being also singularly intelligent as to women's work, has an admirable letter in the *June Garde-Malade Hospitalière* in which he shows clearly the difference between amateur efforts and trained care. He insists that Red Cross members who wish to nurse shall take a full course. Incidentally, he speaks of an interesting thing, namely, that, at his suggestion, the Association of Physicians of France undertakes to assist the widows and orphans of physicians who desire to enter the nursing profession, by making it financially possible for them to take the course, if such help is needed.

THE complimentary dinner to Miss Isla Stewart on the anniversary of her twenty-first year as a training-school superintendent was a glorious success. Mme. Alphen Salvador and M. André Mesureur came to it from Paris, and the latter presented Miss Stewart with a special medal from the *Assistance Publique* of Paris. Many bouquets were given her, and Mrs. Fenwick's speech in offering a toast to Miss Stewart as the honored guest, with her own reply to it, abounded in interesting reminiscence and anecdote. Miss Stewart's long and distinguished service to her profession, with her unswerving support of every progressive cause, however unpopular in the beginning, has been very remarkable and it is well that her friends do not wait to praise her in a later century.

THE Royal Sanitary Institute (England) has established an Examination for Women Health Visitors and Public School Nurses.

WE now feel as if we knew the nurses of far-away New Zealand, since their artistic and interesting journal lies on our table. Their state registration long since successfully under way, chiefly by the work of Mrs. Grace Neill, to whom they will ever be grateful, they regard as a means of perfecting and advancing their professional work. Organization is just beginning in New Zealand. It has been less needed in that enlightened country of universal man and woman suffrage. Now there is a Wellington Private Nurses' Association, planned to further the

interests and raise the efficiency of private nurses, secure a club-room and professional library, arrange lecture courses, establish a central directory and consider a sick benefit fund. A similar club has been started in Dundee, and there is a Wellington District Nursing Association. We extend a cordial hand of fellowship to the New Zealand nurses, and hope to see some of them in London next summer.



OCCUPATION FOR THE INSANE.—In the *Journal of the American Medical Association* E. Cohn remarks on the value of occupation in the treatment of the insane, as well as on the difficulties in providing it, which are experienced even in well-managed institutions. He describes the method which has best served him in meeting the problem, the main feature of which is a regular systematized program for each hour of the patient's day, and including arrangements for physical exercises, graded calisthenics, ward work, mental occupation in the form of games, reading, etc., all directed according to the patient's capacity and changed daily as much as possible to secure variety. Entertainments, music and all kinds of rational out-door sports should be provided for, and every kind of special talent be utilized among patients and employees. Of course, hearty coöperation is required on the part of the attendants, but this is easily secured by proper enforcement of discipline. Attendants and nurses generally fall in readily with the arrangements as helping to render their duties less monotonous. A reasonable amount of "time off duty" should be allowed to better prepare them for their task. Attendants are liable to think amusements, etc., are to be used as rewards for good behavior, but this is a mistake; it is the irritable, restless, and depressed patients who are most in need of them, and the physician should be the judge.

A NEW HONOR FOR MISS NIGHTINGALE

WOMAN'S WORK tells us that in Hiogo, Japan, a native gentleman offered to present the portrait of some distinguished man or woman to a primary school, according to the children's own choice. George Washington headed the list, but Miss Nightingale, the only woman whose name appeared, received thirteen votes.