

"NURSING RECORD" BENEVOLENT FUND.

"BEAR YE ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS."

OBJECT.—To assist, by the united efforts of the readers of the *Nursing Record*, Trained Nurses who may be in need of temporary or permanent aid.

Proposition I.—That subscriptions shall be received to a Benevolent Fund, from which disbursements shall be made to relieve cases urgently needing temporary assistance. A statement of all such receipts and expenditure to be published in the *Record*.

II.—That for such cases of distress as need permanent assistance, the following procedure shall be adopted. Every annual subscriber to this journal shall have the right to send to the Editor the particulars of any such case, with which they may be personally acquainted, and if after full investigation it be found suitable, the name and particulars shall be entered upon a list. The *Nursing Record* will ask its readers to work unitedly for only one case at a time, and when that one, in the manner considered most suitable, is permanently provided for, the list of cases as above obtained, shall be published in the journal. Each copy of that issue shall contain a slip of paper, so that each purchaser of that number will be able to vote for one of the cases on this list by writing her name thereon, and forwarding it by post to the Editor. The following issue of the journal shall contain the number of votes polled for each case, and that one which receives the largest number of proxies, will be adopted as the next case to be relieved by the Fund; and the readers of this journal will then be advised as to the method which seems most suitable for helping that particular case, and asked to unite in securing its speedy success.

CASE I.

Mrs. Sarah Duyck, aged 47, a widow. Has broken her leg so badly, that she will probably be a cripple for the rest of her life. Dislocated one shoulder some years ago, so that she is even unable to use her crutches for long at a time.

Proposed Method of Assistance.—To obtain an annuity of £20 a year from the British Home for Incurables. To do this at least 1,000 votes must be procured from subscribers to the Institution. Lists of subscribers can be obtained by sending eight stamps to the offices, 73, Cheapside, E.C.

Will every reader of this journal do what she or he can to obtain votes for this sad case—to assist, in however small a measure, to bear another's burden? Such help will be gratefully welcomed by the Editor, *Nursing Record*, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C., and all subscriptions, &c., will be duly acknowledged.

CORRESPONDENCE

(Notes, Queries, &c.)

* * * We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by Correspondents. Brevity and conciseness will have first consideration. See Notices.

* * * *British Nurses' Association.*—The offices of the Association are now situated at 8, Oxford Circus Avenue, W., where all communications should in future be addressed. Office hours, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.). Wednesdays, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., to meet the convenience of Nurses who may desire information or advice.

TACT.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I must say that, with "Perplexity," I am somewhat curious to hear the definition of the word "tact," as understood in Hospital life, as I am inclined to think with her that it is often used, more especially in Hospitals, to express qualities which are not altogether admirable in the women who possess them, and there is little doubt that "tact" is not always "a nice perception" of what is most true and honest. From my own experience I am inclined to believe that the persistent cultivation of this quality of tact is essentially demoralizing, and does in time degenerate into "duplicity and humbug." The sympathetic courtesy, which springs from pure womanly kindness of heart, and acts as oil on troubled waters, is not the quality which "manages committees," panders to fads, undermines the enemy, and pulls wires with dexterity and success. Women have for so many generations, when dealing with the opposite sex, "managed to get their own way" by petty subterfuge, that it is a pity to encourage them in their faults, by affecting to admire as cleverness, what in reality is nothing more nor less than cunning.—Yours truly,
MATRONA.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I should define "tact," as it is understood in the institution world, as "lies without words."—Yours, &c.,
A COUNTRY MATRON.
[Brevity is the soul of wit.]—ED.]

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I venture to think that, not only should discussions take place *viva voce*, after the papers have been read at the meetings of the British Nurses' Association, but I would suggest that Members who are unable to be present should, after reading them in your valuable paper, discuss interesting points in your Correspondence columns. By this means many important questions could be well ventilated. "Justitia" is evidently an authority, whose opinion would be of value and whose pen is in working order. What has she to say about "The Matron," with her struggles to do her duty in benighted regions, her lack of tact, canvassing committees and the Medical Staff, Nurses' certificates, all subjects of interest, and all already under discussion—to say nothing of "Doctors and Nurses," concerning whom Dr. Sturges has been good enough to read a paper? Now we have got a paper "all our own," let us make the most of it.—Yours faithfully,
HOSPITAL SISTER.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)