

But once again, let us consider the Kitchen Matron. Undoubtedly she should have a thorough knowledge of general domestic duties and especially cooking; have at her fingers' ends the prices of everything which enters her special domain, and where it is best for the interest of the Hospital to purchase them. True, it is customary for most institutions to have the articles in everyday demand supplied by contract, but little purchases must from time to time be made of which no contract is taken, both in food and kitchen utensils. The Matron should also watch market prices, and be well versed in the varieties of food.

Besides having a knowledge of things she must have a knowledge of men, or rather women. In a small Hospital, such as we are considering, her immediate kitchen staff will probably number not more than two—cook, with maid to assist at times, with perhaps some help in the scullery work by a convalescent patient; but if the kitchen work is to go on smoothly the Superintendent must possess a practical knowledge of household duties, coupled with that experience and tact which alone call forth a willing service.

(To be continued.)

NURSING ECHOES.

*** Communications (duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith) are especially invited for these columns.

No small interest has been created in Nursing circles by the announcement of the Agenda for to-morrow's meeting of the General Council. Needless to say, this is centred partly on the question of the place and date of the Annual Meeting, and partly—perhaps chiefly—on the point of the institution of a Benevolent Fund. Wherever the Association decides to hold

its General Meeting of Members, it can be safely prophesied that the organisation will be perfect, and the gathering will be most pleasant and successful. But what is the Benevolent Fund to be? In the Annual Report (p. 12) it says, "The General Council then proposes as the programme of work for the ensuing twelve months—(1) The formation of the Registers of Nurses and Midwives; (2) the formation of the Benevolent Fund." The first object, as we all know, has now been successfully commenced, and so we might have expected No. 2 to be taken in hand; and, by the way, it shows how carefully the year's work of



the B.N.A. must have been planned out, so long ago as last July. On page 10 of the Report it is stated that the Benevolent Fund is "to assist such Members as may be in need of temporary pecuniary assistance; the benefits of which will, doubtless, be further extended in due time." So it is clear that some form of Compassionate Fund is to be established.

THE annual report of the Guy's Hospital Trained Nurses' Institution is very instructive reading, and speaks volumes, both as to the value of the management of Miss Nott-Bower; to the excellent selection of Probationers and the carefulness of their training at Guy's by, and under, the deservedly respected Lady Superintendent, Miss Jones; and to the high repute in which Guy's Nurses are now consequently held by the public. It is generally known in the Nursing world that the post of Matron at Guy's is no sinecure, and equally well understood how much the whole calling owes to Miss Jones for the high standard of Nursing knowledge and efficiency to which she insists upon the members of her Staff attaining.

OUR ever interesting contemporary, the *Guy's Hospital Gazette*, makes the following allusion to modern Nursing in its last issue:—"The higher Surgery of the present day is undoubtedly much assisted by higher Nursing, and those who look back to the scrubbing-nurse of former times, will have an agreeable surprise if they have not visited our Wards since the days of their studentship. They will find every Sister contributing to the cheerfulness of her Ward, and every Nurse taking pride in the success of her Surgeon's cases, and doing her utmost to aid him in his efforts"; and in another column our contemporary comments thus on the Report to which we have above alluded.

"It is in every way satisfactory, testifying to the continued prosperity of the Home. During the past year Wantage House, Grove Park, has been furnished for the reception of Nurses when the house in St. Thomas's Street is overfull, or when a Nurse requires rest. A Trained Nurse is in charge, and there is sufficient room, after providing for the Nurses, to take in four or five convalescent women and children from Guy's, who with open wounds needing daily dressing would be ineligible for ordinary Convalescent Homes. The expense of the maintenance of such patients is borne by the Samaritan Fund.

"PERHAPS the most important innovation of the year affects the extern department of the Hospital. A Trained Nurse has been appointed to attend, without charge, some of the more serious cases con-

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