

keeping the best class of Nurses; this is considered an additional reason for the Infirmaries training their own Probationers.

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"(442) A WITNESS spoke of the advantage which would be derived, especially in the Nursing Department, by the employment of a Lady Inspector to visit the Infirmaries.

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"(443) THE Marylebone Infirmary trains its own Probationers under the Nightingale Committee, by whom they are paid for the first year, after which they are taken on to the Infirmary Staff, and receive a certificate at the end of three years. They are said to be as well trained there as at a Hospital. This is the only Infirmary in London* which has a separate Home for Nurses; but the need of such an Institution is felt elsewhere.

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"(444) AT the Paddington Infirmary the Assistant Nurses are taken untrained, and get their training in the Infirmary, but there seems to be no regular training system like that which exists at Marylebone.

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"(445) IT was said that at one Infirmary the accommodation for the Nurses was very bad, and it would seem that the food there is hardly sufficient, though complaint was not made on this score.

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"(446) IN the sick wards of the Workhouses the Nursing is of an altogether inferior character. Neither the Matron nor the Nurses have had Hospital training; the numbers are said to be insufficient, and paupers are to a great extent employed as Nurses. At Bethnal Green, where there is no separate Infirmary, and where at times there are nearly six hundred sick in the workhouse, there appears to be a regular staff of less than twenty nurses, some of whom are sixty-five years of age, and these are supplemented, when the sick wards are full, by as many as eighty paupers employed as Nurses. The opinion was expressed that all the Matrons employed in the Infirmaries ought to be trained Nurses. Up to the present time it has not been essential that Nurses should be trained; witness believed that now it was considered necessary that they should have been for about one year in some Institution

* In Liverpool and some other towns Nurses are systematically trained at the Poor Law Hospitals.

Every Nurse who makes her own Underclothing should send her address to the HOPWOOD MANUFACTURING CO., 1, Princess Mills, Hopwood, near Manchester, for Patterns of Pure Calicoes (bleached and unbleached), Twills, Longcloths, Sheetings, and Seamless Pillow casings, which are forwarded free and need not be returned. All goods carriage paid. Any length cut.

for training. At Paddington Workhouse there are about nine Nurses to three hundred beds; only one, the lying-in Nurse, is trained; the Matron is untrained.

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"(447) AT the Fever Hospitals, under the Metropolitan Asylums Board, the nursing is on a somewhat different footing, owing to the great fluctuations from time to time in the number of patients. When there is little of this class of sickness prevalent the Nursing Staff is reduced; and when any infectious illness becomes prevalent, the wards fill up, and it becomes necessary to engage a number of additional Nurses. Under these circumstances the Committee have to take the best material they can get. Trained Nurses would have preference. The Matrons are for the most part, and all those recently appointed are, women who have been trained as Nurses. There is sometimes considerable difficulty in getting Nurses; they are naturally more liable to illness, but the pay is rather better than in ordinary Hospitals."

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THE *Pall Mall Gazette*, which has done so much to forward Nursing reforms by its exposure of the gross mismanagement of the London Hospital, says this week: "We referred the other day in general terms to the remarkable endorsement given by the report of the Lords' Committee to the crusade for Hospital reform which has been carried on in this Journal and elsewhere. It may be instructive now to set out some of the recommendations of the Lords' Committee in the matter of the Nursing Staff, and to contrast therewith the practices against which the recent agitation was directed:—

THE LORDS' COMMITTEE RECOMMEND.

Eight hours' work, exclusive of meals.

Two days off a month.

Three weeks' holiday yearly as a minimum.

One hour for dinner.

Nurses should not have various specified menial duties to perform.

The minimum period after which a Nurse is advertised as thoroughly trained should be three years.

To prevent the Wards of Hospitals being denuded of Nurses a separate Staff should be employed for sending to private cases.

Power of appointment and dismissal should be vested in the chief executive authority.

The 'obscurantists,' it will be seen, have fared badly before the Lords' Committee."

THE 'LONDON' PRACTICE.

Eleven and a-half hours' work, exclusive of meals.

One day irregularly given.

Two weeks until recent agitation.

Twenty or twenty-five minutes.

Which were performed by them at the London until the recent agitation.

The London grants Certificates after two years, and sometimes send out Nurses after less.

Constant practice to send Nurses from the Wards in addition to their private Staff.

Is in the hands of the Matron.

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