

this is the outcome, be assured that no ordinary powers have brought this about, it has been a combination of excellencies—full health conditions in the operator, bright and hopeful temperament, skilful and purposed manipulations, patience and perseverance on the part of both patient and masseuse, and lastly and most important, great reserve forces of energy, which the large, healthy and generous nature of the ideal Masseuse freely imparts to the sufferer. With all this, it must be reiterated, that a by no means meagre knowledge of the organs, and their functions, in health and disease, is necessary. We sincerely hope that the public will speedily become more exacting as to the qualifications possessed by those whom they employ. There do exist women, who are by nature and by study, perfect Masseuses, calculated to inestimably benefit their patients.

The London Hospital.

A QUARTERLY Court of Governors of this Institution was held on September 7th. The Quarterly Report of the Committee showed that twelve Nurses out of 73 had failed to pass their examination at the end of their period of training, and congratulatory reference was made to the favourable tenor of the Report of the House of Lords' Select Committee. In moving the adoption of the Report, the Chairman (Mr. J. H. BUXTON) said, in reference to this latter matter, that the Lords' Committee had made certain slight recommendations, which were not very important, but they were under consideration, and were gradually being thought out by the House Committee. He also stated that the Hospital was prepared to place aside 150 beds for Cholera patients, if there was an epidemic of that disease in London.

Mr. H. YATMAN having formally seconded the motion, Mrs. HUNTER expressed her satisfaction that the very important—not slight—recommendations were being thought out by the House Committee, and she hoped they would be carried out without any very great delay. (Hear, hear.) She objected to the statement of the Chairman that the Lords' Committee had made light of the charges brought against the Nursing Department. That was not the case. The Lords went so far as to say that they considered that the difficulties at the London Hospital would have been avoided if the Committee had not allowed their authority to fall into the hands of salaried officers—which was rather like a verdict of “not guilty, but don't do it again.” Mrs. Hunter pointed out that the Lords' Committee recommended the very improvements which she had always contended were necessary. For example, three weeks holiday—two days off

duty every month; fewer hours of work; that the wards should not be depleted of Nurses in order that they should be sent out to bring funds to the Hospital, and that no Nurse should be sent out as “thoroughly trained,” who had had less than three years' training.

Mr. YATMAN, in a speech which our reporter unfortunately heard indistinctly, asked the Committee and Chairman to speak more kindly of the persons they called “critics,” because the Lords' Committee had re-echoed all their criticisms.

SIR EDMUND HAY CURRIE, in a lengthy speech, stated that the Lords' Committee had not taught the London Hospital Committee their business. The Lords had been studying the matter for a few months, but the House Committee had been engaged in the work every week for many years. Mr. Hunter must not imagine that they were going to alter their system to please the Lords' Committee. They were considering their recommendations, but he hoped none would go away with the impression that there was anything fresh in those recommendations. Mr. Hunter and his friends had done immense harm to the Hospital, but it had not made one of the officials of the Hospital turn round on the Committee.

Mr. HUNTER thought it would have been better if the case of the Hospital had been left in the hands of the Chairman without the intervention of the last speaker. The Chairman had said they were carefully considering the recommendations of the Lords' Committee. Sir EDMUND CURRIE said they did not intend to pay any attention to those recommendations unless they thought fit to do so. He thought it would have been more becoming if Sir E. CURRIE and the Committee had paid more respect to the important conclusions of so influential a body. The argument that criticism did the Hospital harm, was one quite impossible to recognise, because it meant that however much wrong might be done at a Hospital, it must never be questioned for fear of hurting the finances of the Institution. If the recommendations of the Lords' Committee were not carried into effect, the matter would be brought up again and again at these meetings.

DR. BEDFORD FENWICK commented upon the fact stated in the Report that one Nurse out of every six trained at the Hospital had been unable to satisfy her teachers that she knew her work, and expressed his regret that the largest Hospital in the Kingdom should be affording its Nurses' such inefficient training. He severely criticised the plan adopted by the Hospital, and commented upon in the Lords' Report, of certifying Nurses, with whose conduct and knowledge the Matron was not satisfied, as good Nurses, to the public. He asked whether the 12 Nurses who had recently failed to prove their knowledge of their work had

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