

is nurses "are required to produce certificates at least three years' training;" "they are paid stated salaries;" but neither the character of the training nor the amount of the salaries are "stated." And we are led to understand that they possess "a comparatively sumptuous home to return to—with servants to wait upon them."

Beyond bemoaning the prevalence of vulgar, Socialistic, Bohemian, clap-trap co-operations, Mr. Herbert Jones feels called upon also to commiserate the poor public for the extortionate fees which the modern nurse, through the above-named agencies, obtains. And so bitter are his lamentations on this score, that the conclusion is irresistible that Mr. Herbert Jones must, for some extraordinary reason, experience difficulty in obtaining equally high remuneration for the nurses of his own Institute.

We do not consider that Mr. Herbert Jones will raise the Institute, of which he is the Proprietor, in the estimation of medical men or of the public, by the pamphlet to which we refer, because from the first page to the last it consists of unveiled abuse of other institutions, which is neither dignified nor even, invariably, grammatical. There is only one conclusion which will be drawn from such an exhibition of jealousy of other institutions, while the piteous reference to the expenses of an Institution which "seem ever increasing and more difficult to contend with—especially when this expense has to be honestly met," might very possibly be misconstrued, by the hypercritical, as an expression of personal feeling on the part of the writer.

With all deference to Mr. Herbert Jones, we venture to consider and to contend that a well-trained Nurse is thoroughly deserving of the payment which the public makes for her services, and that it is more satisfactory to the great majority of Nurses to receive their remuneration themselves, coupled with a certain amount of independence as responsible and grown-up beings, than to be beholden to any Proprietor for "stated" wages, even if this be combined with "a sumptuous home—with servants to wait upon them."

WORKHOUSE POOR LAW NURSING.

A very important circular was issued last week from the Local Government Board to Boards of Guardians throughout the country. Although it referred at some length to the question of Nursing under the Poor Law, we greatly regret to observe that it did not contain any distinct recommendations upon a matter concerning which those best acquainted with the working of the Nursing Department in Workhouse Infirmaries are convinced that reform is necessary. The Board have

mortification at the progress of other bodies which are in competition with his own. It cannot be regarded as altogether dignified that the writer should describe such competitors as "offices which as a species of clap-trap are now starting under the name of co-operations"—a system by the way which he elsewhere defines as "an attempt to put into practice a vulgar Socialistic fad"; while there is evident envy hidden under the statement that "a registry of this sort costs its promoter nothing, he need only sit and enjoy his entrance fees and commissions."

The extensive knowledge of Nursing matters possessed by the Proprietor of the General Nursing Institute is perhaps accurately displayed in his statement that "one thing only can be discovered to in any way recommend these new-fangled 'co-operations,' namely, the extortionate fees which they at present seem able to demand, for in that lies the sole attraction they possess." But it is necessary to enter a firm protest against certain extraordinary assertions which are made in this pamphlet. Mr. Herbert Jones, B.A.Camb., so far forgets himself as to state that "a properly conducted residential Institution is the only respectable or indeed decent way in which a staff of Nurses can be kept together"; and again, "it is only the Nurses thus in residence together who can be said to bring with them to their cases any sort of guarantee as regards private character"; and again, "the nurses residing together in a home under a certain amount of supervision are not likely to belong to the rickety, dangerous class now increasing so rapidly, and doing so much mischief—these young ladies naturally desire a far less conventional mode of existence." In Mr. Jones' opinion they live "a kind of Bohemian life left to their own resources, and scattered about London in their different lodgings." If it were not for their vulgarity which arouses pity, the impertinence and untruthfulness of these statements would cause anger amongst the large number of most excellent Nurses, not living in Institutions, upon whom they are, and are intended to be, a serious reflection.

The details which the Proprietor gives concerning his own property are somewhat meagre.

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