

alert—if she has any, many, or, possibly, all these human depravities, she is unfit for the occupation of professional nurse. The essentials in the nurse for successful nursing may be briefly summarized: Intelligence, for brains are as valuable in nursing as in preaching; love of the work; alertness of mind and body; abhorrence of idleness or loafing; tireless patience; strength and energy in every motion of the body, and this directed by a gentleness with will-force in it; the faculty of adaptation to the peculiarities, the idiosyncrasies of patients; discreet in speech, knowing when to be silent, absolutely void of the too universal talent for gossip; absolutely pure in all her living.

The schools paying their nurses small salaries are turning out the best nurses. Young women enter these schools to prepare themselves for professional nursing. The profession is not one so much of special choice; their necessities urge them to seek some employment for a living; they have limited or no means; their parents have large families, and it is important that the daughters earn something. This compensation gives a measure of value and appreciation to their services, is a stimulus, an encouraging factor, inspires the feeling that they are doing something that has a value. A number of schools are organized and managed with the one idea of recruiting the hospital corps of nurses. The revenue from the hard service and forced sacrifices of hired-out nurses is in some institutions in excess of hospital expenditures. I have used the word *forced*, and I have used it advisedly. It is force in a cruel form to take advantage of necessities, of conditions from which the nurse cannot escape and cannot control. These hospitals and so-called training schools belong to that class of silk-stockinged, feline-tongued, slobbering philanthropists who are always philanthropic at other people's expense. This mendicant hospital system of undergraduate nursing is wholesale robbery of intelligent graduate nurses. The evil is one the general profession can do very much to correct. Too much has always been expected of nurses in private nursing. Nursing through twenty-four consecutive hours is too much to require of human endurance, and results in neglect of the patient. If we expect nurses to be bright, cheerful, and full of tact, we must have some practical consideration for their comfort, reckoned with the factors which contribute to preserve their health and promote their happiness. They should have regular and substantial meals and equally regular hours of rest. Relays in private practice, as well as in well-regulated hospitals, are important for the welfare of both patient and nurse.

(To be continued.)

## Nursing Echoes.

\* \* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



As we go to press, Her Majesty the Queen is receiving 68 nurses at the Viceregal Lodge, on the staff of the Irish Branch of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, of which Miss Lamont is the General Superintendent. The Office of the Institute is at 14, Nassau Street, Dublin, and the Training Homes for the nurses are St. Patrick's, Stephen's Green, and St. Lawrence, Rutland Square. The former house trains candidates of the Protestant denomination, and the latter those of the Roman Catholic Church.

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THE Princesses are busy patronising the Dublin hospitals, and Princess Christian paid a visit to the Adelaide Hospital on Saturday, an institution which in the past enjoyed the special support of the late Queen Dowager. Miss Fitzpatrick, the Lady Superintendent, was amongst those who received the royal visitor.

\* \* \*  
ON Tuesday the Queen also honoured this popular hospital with a call, during her afternoon drive, around the handsome entrance of which the nursing staff were grouped. Upon the Queen's arrival, Lord Denbigh presented the Chairman of the Hospital Committee (Mr. W. Ormsby), the Hon. Secretaries (Mr. Pakenham Low and Dr. Wallace Beatty), the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. William Fry), the Matron (Miss Fitzpatrick), the Senior Physician (Dr. James Little), the Senior Surgeon (Mr. F. J. Heuston), and other members of the medical staff. A bouquet was offered by Miss Fitzpatrick, and the Queen, after thanking her, said:—"I hear you have a very good hospital." This brief, but highly gratifying little ceremony at an end, loud cheers were raised, and the procession moved on.

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MRS. CHAMBERLAIN, the wife of the Colonial Secretary, contributes an article on "An Obligation of Empire" to the *North American Review*, which deserves consideration. The article is a plea for the better recognition of the importance

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